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Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East: United Nations Disengagement Observer Force

Performance report on the budget of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007

Report of the Secretary-General

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Summary

The present report contains the performance report on the budget of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007.

The total expenditure for UNDOF for that period has been linked to the mission's objective through a number of results-based budgeting frameworks, grouped by components, namely, operations and support.

Performance of financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007.)

			Variance		
Category	*Apportionment*	*Expenditure*	*Amount*	*Percentage*	
Military and police personnel	19 941.6	19 523.3	418.3	2.1	
Civilian personnel	8 496.7	8 555.6	(58.9)	(0.7)	
Operational costs	11 426.9	11 470.1	(43.2)	(0.4)	
	Gross requirements		**39 865.2**	**39 549.0**	**316.2 0.8**
Staff assessment income	1 066.6	1 139.2	(72.6)	(6.8)	
	Net requirements		**38 798.6**	**38 409.8**	**388.8 1.0**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—	
	Total requirements		**39 865.2**	**39 549.0**	**316.2 0.8**

Human resources incumbency performance

Category (average) (percentage)[b]	Approved[a] *Vacancy rate*	*Actual*	
Military contingents	1 047	1 039	0.8
International staff	43	39	9.3
National staff	107	105	2.0

[a] Represents the highest level of authorized strength.

[b] Based on monthly incumbency and approved monthly strength.

The actions to be taken by the General Assembly are set out in section V of the present report.

I. Introduction

1. The budget for the maintenance of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007, set out in the report of the Secretary-General of 3 January 2006 (A/60/641 and Corr.2), amounted to $39,975,900 gross ($38,909,300 net). It provided for 1,047 military contingent personnel, 43 international staff and 107 national staff. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in paragraph 32 of its report on the financing of UNDOF dated 20 April 2006 (A/60/811), recommended that the General Assembly appropriate $39,975,900 gross for the maintenance of the Force for that period.

2. The General Assembly, by its resolution 60/277, appropriated an amount of $39,865,200 gross ($38,798,600 net) for the maintenance of the Force for 2006/07. The total amount has been assessed on Member States.

II. Mandate performance

3. The mandate of the Force was established by the Security Council in its resolution 350 (1974) and extended in its subsequent resolutions. The mandate for the performance period was provided by the Council in its resolutions 1685 (2006) and 1729 (2006).

4. The Force is mandated to help the Security Council achieve an overall objective, namely, to maintain international peace and security.

5. Within this overall objective, the Force has, during the reporting period, contributed to a number of accomplishments by delivering related key outputs, shown in the frameworks below for the operations and support components.

6. The present report assesses actual performance against the planned results-based budgeting frameworks set out in the 2006/07 budget. In particular, the report compares the actual indicators of achievement, that is, the extent to which actual progress has been made during the period against the expected accomplishments, with the planned indicators of achievement, and the actually completed outputs with the planned outputs.

Component 1: operations

Expected accomplishment 1.1: the parties act in accordance and comply with the Disengagement Agreement

Planned indicators of achievement	*Actual indicators of achievement*
1.1.1 Separation of forces and areas of limitation maintained	No serious violations of the ceasefire agreement. 182 minor violations in the UNDOF area of responsibility protested to the relevant parties

Planned outputs	*Completed (number or yes/no)*	*Remarks*
Weekly high-level meetings with the Syrian authorities; meetings with local Syrian officials, as needed	22	Meetings The output was lower than planned owing to unforeseen scheduling difficulties

Monthly high-level meetings with the Israel Defense Forces command	6	Meetings The output was lower than planned owing to unforeseen scheduling difficulties
Biweekly meetings with the Israel Defense Forces liaison staff	12	Meetings The output was lower than planned owing to unforeseen scheduling difficulties
27,375 mobile patrol person days (3 troops per patrol x 25 patrols x 365 days)	27 104	Mobile patrol person days
5,840 foot patrol person days (2 troops x 8 patrols x 365 days) during the day and at night	6 782	Foot patrol person days Higher output related to an increase in civilian activities in the area of separation and the need to monitor increased training activities of military personnel on both sides of the area of separation
1,460 standing patrol person days (2 troops x 2 patrols x 365 days)	3 119	Standing patrol person days Higher output owing to increased patrols in proximity to ceasefire line areas susceptible to violation by civilians
10,220 rapid reaction patrol person days (2 troops x 14 patrols x 365 days) responsive within 10 minutes of call	8 030	Rapid reaction patrol person days The lower output reflected actual operational requirements, while planned output was based on the Force's capacity to react
25,550 rapid reaction group person days (10 troops x 7 groups x 365 days) on armoured personnel carrier, responsive within 10 minutes of call	23 725	Rapid reaction group person days The lower output reflected actual operational requirement, while planned output was based on the capacity of the Force to react
14,600 special task person days (20 troops x 2 platoons x 365 days) on armoured personnel carriers	9 285	Special task person days The number of special task person days relates to one platoon only, as participation of the second platoon was awaiting official approval from the Government of the troop-contributing country
15,330 troop manned observation post person days (2 troops x 21 posts x 365 days)	20 779	Troop manned observation post person days Increase in output attributable to the manning of six additional outposts owing to operational requirements
1,460 temporary checkpoint person days (4 troops x 1 checkpoint x 365 days)	2 840	Temporary checkpoint person days Higher output owing to an increase in mobile operations, which included motorized and foot patrolling, temporary observation posts and temporary checkpoints, in response to increased civilian activities and because of the need to monitor military training activities on both sides of the area of separation

730 special fact-finding team person days (2 troops x 1 team x 365 days)	338	Special fact-finding team person days Special fact-finding teams were sent out only as and when required
Biweekly inspections of the areas of limitation	24	Inspections completed on both sides of the area of limitation
Protests on all violations of the agreement	337	Violations in the area of separation, of which 182 were protested by UNDOF
2 reports of the Secretary-General to the Security Council	2	Reports
Immediate communications with the parties during crisis situations	Yes	Close contact maintained between UNDOF and both parties 24 hours a day, seven days a week
Provision of periodic secure escorts for passage, supervised by the International Committee of the Red Cross, of persons across the area of separation for humanitarian purposes	Yes	Assisted in 55 crossings

Expected accomplishment 1.2: reduced threat of mines in the area of separation

Planned indicators of achievement	*Actual indicators of achievement*
1.2.1 Zero persons killed/injured by mines and unexploded ordnance (2003/04: 1 person injured; 2004/05: 3 persons killed; 2005/06: 0 casualties; 2006/07: 0 casualties)	No casualties owing to mines and unexploded ordnance

Planned outputs	*Completed (number or yes/no)*	*Remarks*
Operational clearing of mines and unexploded ordnance in the area of separation	Yes	40 shells, 7 grenades, 18 anti-personnel mines, 1 anti-tank missile, 30 anti-tank mines and 1,100 kg aircraft bombs
Advice to the United Nations Children's Fund mine awareness project, as requested	No	No requests received

Component 2: support

Expected accomplishment 2.1: effective and efficient logistical, administrative and security support to the mission

Planned indicators of achievement	*Actual indicators of achievement*
2.1.1 Increase in the value of assets disposed of compared to the value of assets written off (2004/05: 77 per cent; 2005/06: 80 per cent; 2006/07: 85 per cent)	83 per cent of the assets written off were disposed of during the reporting period
2.1.2 Increase of communications and information technology services uptime in the Camp Faouar headquarters, Camp Ziouani, the Representational Office, Damascus, and military operational positions (2004/05: 93 per cent; 2005/06: 95 per cent; 2006/07: 97 per cent)	Network services were operational and available at a rate of 98.5 per cent
2.1.3 Reduction in electrical maintenance requirements (2004/05: $172,600; 2005/06: $155,000; 2006/07: $120,100)	Total requirements of $129,900 owing to the higher actual cost of electrical supplies
2.1.4 Reduction in the average procurement solicitations processing time between the receipt of a certified requisition and the issuance of purchase order for goods (2004/05: procurement value below $30,000 — 90 days; above $30,000 — 105 days; 2005/06: procurement value below $30,000 — 81 days; above $30,000 — 81 days; 2006/07: procurement value below $30,000 — 60 days; above $30,000 — 75 days)	The average procurement solicitation time reduced to 55 days for goods with procurement value below $30,000 and to 75 days for goods with procurement value above $30,000
2.1.5 Reduction in the number of accidents with damage of more than $500 (2004/05: 108; 2005/06: 96; 2006/07: 84)	17 accidents Reduction owing primarily to the strict enforcement of speed limits by military police during peak traffic hours

Planned outputs	*Completed (number or yes/no)*	*Remarks*
Service improvement		
Implementation of an improved sales/disposal process in respect of written-off assets	Yes	Assets with inventory value of $2.7 million written off compared to $2.5 million in the 2005/06 period

		Assets with inventory value of $2.2 million disposed of compared to $1.6 million in the 2005/06 period
		Improvement achieved through review of the sales/disposal process and assignment of one staff member fully responsible for assets disposal
Completion of network security precautions/arrangements in Camp Faouar and all network hub positions by installation of programmable Cisco switches and roll-out of Active Directory Service at all locations	Yes	System-wide critical alarms reduced to zero Completed Active Directory Service consolidation and integration at all locations
Implementation of an improved electricity preventive maintenance programme	Yes	Preventive maintenance carried out twice during the reporting period instead of once as in 2005/06
Implementation of an improved vendor roster management system	Yes	Fully registered vendors: 70
		Vendors registered as temporary: 38
		Same number of fully registered vendors as 2005/06; 38 temporary vendors added to roster
Implementation of a road safety training programme	Yes	The programme covered 590 military personnel and civilian staff
Military personnel		
Emplacement, rotation and repatriation of an authorized strength of 1,047 military personnel	1 039	Average strength
Supply and storage of rations, petrol, oil and lubricants for 2 camps and 21 positions for an average strength of 1,047 troops	1 039	Average strength
Civilian personnel		
Administration of an authorized strength of 43 international and 107 national staff	39	Average strength of international personnel
	105	Average strength of national staff
Facilities and infrastructure		
Construction of a new accommodation building in position 80 to replace the existing structure	Yes	New building for 28 soldiers constructed to replace 4 trailers and 1 prefabricated building

Maintenance of facilities in Camp Faouar, Camp Ziouani, the Representational Office, Damascus, military police detachment "C" in the area of separation, 21 area of separation positions and 18 outposts	Yes	
Operation and maintenance of 92 generators in 24 locations	Yes	As planned
Repair of 8 km of roads	Yes	Upgraded 8 km of roads for easy passage to the positions and outposts so as to increase operational efficiency and effectiveness
Maintenance of 14 water wells and filtration systems	Yes	14 water wells
Ground transportation		
Operation and maintenance of 386 vehicles, including 18 United Nations-owned equipment and 6 leased armoured personnel carriers	Yes	380 vehicles, including 18 United Nations-owned armoured personnel carriers. Six armoured personnel carriers envisaged under contingency-owned equipment arrangements were not provided by troop-contributing countries
Communications		
Support and maintenance of 13 private automatic branch exchanges, 1,200 telephone extensions, 2 satellite Earth stations, 494 2-way mobile radios, 408 walkie-talkies, 21 very high frequency repeater stations and 28 microwave links	Yes	Provided as planned
Information technology		
Support and maintenance of wide area network, 47 servers, 353 desktop computers, 36 laptop computers, 163 printers and 28 scanners in 22 locations	Yes	Provided as planned
Medical		
Operation and maintenance of 3 level-I medical centres for the personnel of UNDOF and UNTSO, and the local civilian population in emergency cases	3	Level-I medical facilities
Operation and maintenance of voluntary confidential HIV counselling and testing facilities for all personnel	Yes	189 UNDOF personnel made use of the voluntary counselling and testing facilities

HIV sensitization programme for all personnel, including peer education	Yes	510 UNDOF personnel attended the programme Peer education not carried out owing to lack of training materials
Security		
Provision of security services, including security threat assessment and risk management, to Camp Faouar, Camp Ziouani, the Representational Office, Damascus, military police detachment "C" in the area of separation and 21 positions	Yes	Services provided by contractual personnel. Security threat assessment and risk management provided by Security Adviser through daily situation reports
Investigation of security incidents and advice to mission personnel and their dependants and to the personnel of 9 United Nations agencies	Yes	141 incidents investigated (theft, burglary, damage to personal property, minor traffic accidents)
Conduct of training exercises, encompassing procedures relating to security, nuclear, chemical and biological protection, shelter alarms and camp protection	Yes	For 1,197 participants, comprising UNDOF military personnel and civilian staff, in 642 training programmes (courses), including firefighting, mine detection, shelter drills to familiarize personnel with shelter locations and procedures in order to enable them to respond to shelter alerts, guard training, training of ambulance personnel, training of military personnel assigned to the Engineering Section to work on engineering projects, defence training and shooting exercises for military personnel, dissemination of alert information and briefings on national law and order
Military and civilian personnel		
Implementation of a conduct and discipline programme for all military and civilian personnel, including training, prevention, monitoring and recommendations on disciplinary action	Yes	Key personnel of all incoming military contingents briefed on code of conduct, including gender awareness, HIV/AIDS, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse. Civilian staff briefed during induction training No cases of sexual exploitation and abuse reported during the period

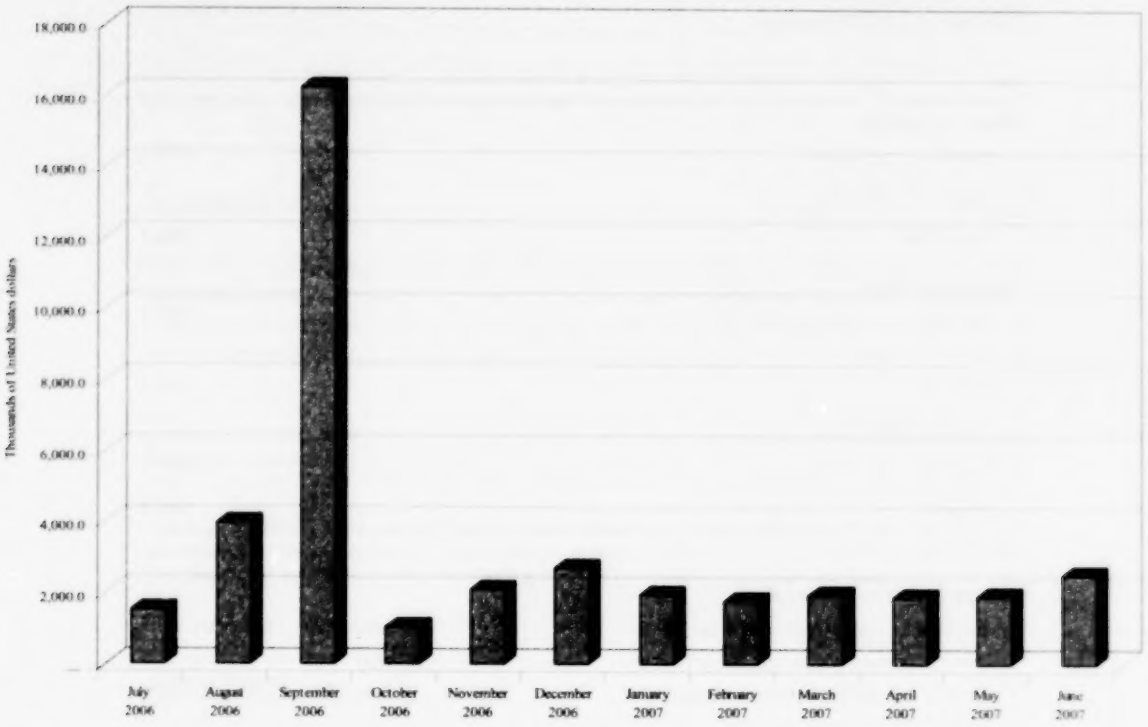
III. Resource performance

A. Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007.)

Category	Apportionment (1)	Expenditure (2)	Variance Amount (3) = (1) - (2)	Variance Percentage (4) = (3) ÷ (1)
Military and police personnel				
Military observers	—	—	—	—
Military contingents	19 941.6	19 523.3	418.3	2.1
United Nations police	—	—	—	—
Formed police units	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**19 941.6**	**19 523.3**	**418.3**	**2.1**
Civilian personnel				
International staff	6 377.7	6 067.9	309.8	4.9
National staff	2 119.0	2 487.7	(368.7)	(17.4)
United Nations Volunteers	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**8 496.7**	**8 555.6**	**(58.9)**	**(0.7)**
Operational costs				
General temporary assistance	40.0	119.8	(79.8)	(199.5)
Government-provided personnel	—	—	—	—
Civilian electoral observers	—	—	—	—
Consultants	14.0	0.3	13.7	97.9
Official travel	227.0	243.6	(16.6)	(7.3)
Facilities and infrastructure	4 094.7	4 171.0	(76.3)	(1.9)
Ground transportation	3 954.2	3 413.0	541.2	13.7
Air transportation	—	—	—	—
Naval transportation	—	—	—	—
Communications	1 377.4	1 370.3	7.1	0.5
Information technology	676.9	659.0	17.9	2.6
Medical	396.6	391.9	4.7	1.2
Special equipment	64.3	140.2	(75.9)	(118.0)
Other supplies, services and equipment	581.8	961.0	(379.2)	(65.2)
Quick-impact projects	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**11 426.9**	**11 470.1**	**(43.2)**	**(0.4)**
Gross requirements	**39 865.2**	**39 549.0**	**316.2**	**0.8**
Staff assessment income	1 066.6	1 139.2	(72.6)	(6.8)
Net requirements	**38 798.6**	**38 409.8**	**388.8**	**1.0**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—
Total requirements	**39 865.2**	**39 549.0**	**316.2**	**0.8**

B. Monthly expenditure pattern



7. Higher expenditures for the month of September 2006 were attributable to the recording of obligations for reimbursement to troop-contributing Governments for troop costs and major equipment, and death and disability in respect of military contingents.

C. Other income and adjustments

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Amount*
Interest income	1 259.9
Other/miscellaneous income	345.5
Voluntary contributions in cash	—
Prior-period adjustments	(1.0)
Savings on or cancellation of prior-period obligations	808.1
Total	**2 412.5**

D. Expenditure for contingent-owned equipment: major equipment and self-sustainment

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Expenditure*
Major equipment	
Military contingents	300.2
Formed police units	—
Subtotal	**300.2**
Self-sustainment	
Facilities and infrastructure	309.4
Communications	—
Medical	195.4
Special equipment	4.3
Subtotal	**509.1**
Total	**809.3**

Mission factors	*Percentage*	*Effective date*	*Last review date*
A. Applicable to mission area			
Extreme environmental condition factor	—	19 May 2003	19 January 2006
Intensified operational condition factor	—	19 May 2003	19 January 2006
Hostile action/forced abandonment factor	—	19 May 2003	19 January 2006
B. Applicable to home country			
Incremental transportation factor	1.5		

IV. Analysis of variances[1]

	Variance	
Military contingents	$418.3	2.1%

8. The unutilized balance was due primarily to lower than budgeted actual requirements for the settlement of death and disability claims, and for the reimbursement for contingent-owned equipment, as six armoured personnel carriers envisaged under a dry lease agreement with a troop-contributing country were not provided.

[1] Resource variance amounts are expressed in thousands of United States dollars. Analysis is provided for variances of at least plus or minus 5 per cent or $100,000.

	Variance	
International staff	$309.8	4.9%

9. The unspent balance resulted from a higher actual vacancy rate of 9.3 per cent compared to the budgeted vacancy rate of 7.0 per cent.

	Variance	
National staff	($368.7)	(17.4%)

10. The additional requirements under this heading were due to the implementation of revised national staff salary scales effective from 1 October 2005 and from 1 October 2006. The budgetary provisions were based on a salary scale which took effect on 1 October 2004.

	Variance	
General temporary assistance	($79.8)	(199.5%)

11. The additional expenditures incurred under this heading were attributable primarily to the hiring of a cartographer to meet immediate operational requirements for mapping services owing to the security situation in the mission area.

	Variance	
Consultants	$13.7	97.9%

12. The unutilized balance resulted from the availability of UNDOF staff to conduct training in conduct and discipline and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse as well as contract administration, which obviated the need to engage consultants as provided for in the budget.

	Variance	
Official travel	($16.6)	(7.3%)

13. The additional requirements related primarily to travel undertaken by the incoming Force Commander to meet with Government officials and representatives of the diplomatic community and for reconnaissance travel to plan for possible evacuation of staff owing to the deterioration of the security situation.

	Variance	
Ground transportation	$541.2	13.7%

14. The unutilized balance under this heading was due primarily to lower actual requirements for vehicle spare parts and liability insurance. Savings related to the acquisition of vehicle spare parts were attributable to the favourable local market conditions, as well as the reduction in vehicle accidents upon the introduction of strict speed limitation measures. In addition, worldwide insurance rates introduced after the finalization of the budget were lower than the budgeted rates.

	Variance	
Special equipment	($75.9)	(118.0%)

15. The additional requirements under this heading resulted from the acquisition of a night-vision device with thermal imagery capabilities required by military personnel to perform night observation in the areas of separation and limitation.

	Variance	
Other supplies, services and equipment	($379.2)	(65.2%)

16. The additional expenditures were due primarily to charges for the UNDOF share of the cost of the Office of Internal Oversight Services Procurement Task Force and the recording in the mission's accounts of a loss on exchange resulting from the fluctuation of the United States dollar.

V. Actions to be taken by the General Assembly

17. **The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of UNDOF are:**

(a) **To decide on the treatment of the unencumbered balance of $316,200 with respect to the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007;**

(b) **To decide on the treatment of other income for the period ended 30 June 2007 amounting to $2,412,500 from interest income ($1,259,900), other/miscellaneous income ($345,500) and savings on or cancellation of prior-period obligations ($808,100), offset by prior-period adjustments ($1,000).**

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Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Steven Ssenabulya **Nkayivu** (Uganda)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2007, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the question of the capital master plan under agenda item 128 at its 8th, 9th and 21st meetings, on 23 and 24 October and 6 December 2007. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the question are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/62/SR.8, 9 and 21).

3. For its consideration of the question, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2006;[1]

(b) Fifth annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the capital master plan (A/62/364 and Corr.1);

(c) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/7/Add.4 and Corr.1);

(d) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 (A/62/281 (Part I), paras. 72-75).

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 5, vol. V* (A/62/5, Vol. V)).

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.8

4. At its 21st meeting, on 6 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Capital master plan" (A/C.5/62/L.8), which was submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Bangladesh.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.8 without a vote (see para. 7).

6. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Kuwait made a statement in explanation of position (see A/C.5/62/SR.21).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

7. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Capital master plan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/249 of 23 December 1999, 55/238 of 23 December 2000, 56/234 and 56/236 of 24 December 2001 and 56/286 of 27 June 2002, section II of its resolution 57/292 of 20 December 2002, its resolution 59/295 of 22 June 2005, section II of its resolution 60/248 of 23 December 2005, its resolutions 60/256 of 8 May 2006 and 60/282 of 30 June 2006, section II.B of its resolution 61/236 and its resolutions 61/246 and 61/251 of 22 December 2006, its resolution 62/___* of __ December 2007 and its decision 58/566 of 8 April 2004,

Having considered the fifth annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the capital master plan,[1] the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007[3] and the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2006,[4]

Reaffirming that the costs of the capital master plan are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Reiterates its serious concern* at the hazards, risks and deficiencies of the United Nations Headquarters Building in its current condition, which endanger the safety, health and well-being of staff, delegations, visitors and tourists;

2. *Stresses* the special role of the host country Government with regard to support for United Nations Headquarters in New York;

3. *Notes* the benefits, including economic ones, accruing to host countries from the presence of the United Nations, and the costs incurred;

4. *Recalls* the current practices of host Governments with regard to support for United Nations Headquarters and United Nations bodies located in their territories;

5. *Reaffirms* its commitment to the safety, security, health and well-being of staff, delegations, visitors and tourists at the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that concrete safeguards are in place to achieve these objectives and are part of the standard operating procedures throughout the implementation of the capital master plan;

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* See A/C.5/62/L.4.

[1] A/62/364 and Corr.1.

[2] A/62/7/Add.4 and Corr.1.

[3] A/62/281 (Part I), paras. 72-75.

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 5, vol. V* (A/62/5, vol. V)).

6. *Takes note* of the fifth annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the capital master plan,[1] the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007[3] and the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2006;[4]

7. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

8. *Regrets deeply* the procedural difficulties in United Nations departments, delays in decision-making by Secretariat leadership and insufficient responsiveness to the needs of the project by United Nations management, resulting in projected cost escalation, as reported in paragraph 23 of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

9. *Stresses* the centrality of the leadership and oversight of the Secretary-General and senior management, as well as a commitment to the project from all departments during the completion of the capital master plan to avoid a recurrence of the mistakes and delays in the implementation of the project to date and their negative implications for the Organization;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full accountability for the delays, lack of responsiveness of management to the needs of the capital master plan and other factors that have contributed to delays in the implementation of the capital master plan and the projected budget overrun, and to include this information in the sixth annual progress report;

11. *Accepts* the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2006;[4]

12. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report;

13. *Notes with concern* the findings of the Board of Auditors as contained in its report, and emphasizes the importance of the full implementation of its recommendations;

14. *Reaffirms* the importance of oversight with respect to the implementation of the capital master plan, and requests the Board of Auditors and all other relevant oversight bodies to continue to report to the General Assembly annually on the capital master plan;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services with a comprehensive review focusing, inter alia, on the structure of the Office of the Capital Master Plan, compliance with United Nations regulations and rules on procurement and contracting, adherence to the terms of contracts, internal controls and processes in place to properly manage the project and other high-risk areas, and to report thereon at its sixty-third session;

16. *Requests* the Office of Internal Oversight Services to ensure effective audit coverage of the capital master plan and to submit to the General Assembly all of its reports related to the implementation of the capital master plan;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop and implement a comprehensive internal control framework for the capital master plan to mitigate and effectively address all possible risks, to ensure full compliance and

responsiveness on the part of management to the specific requirements of the project, to avoid any delays in the implementation of any aspect of the project and to ensure full compliance with United Nations rules and procedures and General Assembly resolutions governing procurement;

18. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 36, 37 and 38 of its resolution 61/251 on the importance of transparency in the procurement process, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the construction manager takes them fully into account when subcontracting and to report, in the context of the sixth annual progress report, on the specific steps taken and progress achieved in the context of increasing procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the implementation of the capital master plan;

19. *Reaffirms once again* paragraph 38 of its resolution 61/251, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that procurement activities conducted by the construction manager in the implementation of the capital master plan are in compliance with United Nations rules, regulations and procedures and General Assembly resolutions governing United Nations procurement activities as well as ethics policies, including post-employment restrictions,[5] and that the relevant provisions are taken fully into account by the construction manager when subcontracting;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all expression of interest notices issued by the construction manager and all related contract awards are posted on the capital master plan website;

21. *Recalls* that, in accordance with article 5 of the United Nations general conditions of contract, the terms of any subcontract shall be subject to and conform to the provisions of the general conditions of contract;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to exercise his authority to undertake, in respect of the subcontractors directly involved in the provision of goods and services to the Organization on behalf of the capital master plan construction manager, a thorough review of their qualifications and the identities of the principals involved, and further requests the Secretary-General to provide prior written approval and clearance for the use of such subcontractors, as required in article 5 of the general conditions of contract, so as to ensure the integrity, fairness and transparency of the procurement process;

23. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to post and regularly update the list of subcontractors approved by the United Nations on the capital master plan website and to include information on the implementation of article 5 of the general conditions of contract, including the procedure for review and approval of subcontractors by the United Nations, in future progress reports on the implementation of the capital master plan;

24. *Reaffirms* section XV of its resolution 61/244 of 22 December 2006;

25. *Regrets* the delay in the appointment of the advisory board as requested in its resolutions 57/292 and 61/251, and urges the Secretary-General to expedite the setting up of the advisory board, reflecting wide geographical representation, so that it can begin its work as a matter of priority;

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[5] See ST/SGB/2006/15.

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the advisory board provides, inter alia, the necessary level of technical supervision;

27. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to explore the experience of various international organizations that have established ad hoc expert committees to provide advice on technical aspects of their construction and/or building maintenance projects and to report to the General Assembly thereon in the context of the forthcoming sixth annual progress report;

28. *Affirms* that the General Assembly has the sole prerogative of deciding on any changes to the capital master plan project, budget and implementation strategy as approved in its resolutions;

29. *Takes note* of the proposal of the Secretary-General on the accelerated strategy IV;

30. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into an additional swing space arrangement needed for a single-phase renovation of the Secretariat Building as a matter of urgency;

31. *Approves* the changes in the schedule of the renovation of the Secretariat Building proposed by the Secretary-General in paragraph 27 of his report,[1] subject to the availability of the additional swing space arrangement referred to in paragraph 30 above, and, if such arrangement is not entered into within 120 days of the adoption of the present resolution, requests the Secretary-General to proceed without further delay with the phased approach to the renovation of the Secretariat Building as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/251;

32. *Also approves* the changes in the schedule of the renovation of the Conference Building and the General Assembly Building as proposed by the Secretary-General in paragraph 28 of his report;[1]

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly comprehensive information on the availability and cost of and the movement of staff to the hired swing space and to ensure that such space will be available to the United Nations as long as it is required and will entail no additional cost or further staff dislocation, bearing in mind the unique nature of the capital master plan;

34. *Reaffirms* paragraph 39 of its resolution 61/251, emphasizes to the Secretary-General the importance of effectively managing the multiple staff relocations and ensuring that the swing space meets the highest standards for the safety, security, health and well-being of the staff of the United Nations and that any disruption in the work of the United Nations as a result of such temporary relocation is minimized at every stage;

35. *Recalls* paragraphs 51 to 56 of the report of the Board of Auditors,[4] and requests the Secretary-General to expeditiously complete the geotechnical and other surveys and to provide updated information on the outstanding technical elements of the project that may have a considerable impact on the overall project, including design work for upgraded blast protection and geotechnical and other surveys, and to include this information in the future progress reports;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the changes approved in paragraphs 30 and 32 of the present resolution are implemented without prejudice to the objectives and quality of the project and to submit to the General Assembly a

comprehensive report on the efficiency gains and cost absorption possible through the implementation of these changes;

37. *Recalls* paragraph 10 of its resolution 61/251, and decides that any scope options in addition to those already approved by the General Assembly shall be submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly for its consideration and approval;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure by all means that the project costs are brought back within the approved budget;

39. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General to make every effort to avoid budget increases through sound project management practices and to ensure that the capital master plan is completed within the budget as approved in its resolution 61/251;

40. *Notes* that forward pricing escalation is already included in the approved budget contained in the fourth annual progress report of the Secretary-General,[6] and requests the Secretary-General to avoid budget increases through sound project management practices and to keep the capital master plan within the approved budget, schedule of assessments and time schedule;

41. *Takes note* of the proposal of the Secretary-General to utilize value engineering as a tool to recover the projected cost overruns in the capital master plan budget approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/251, directed at improving performance, reliability, quality, safety and life-cycle costs, and requests the Secretary-General to expeditiously and clearly identify the areas of work where efficiency gains and cost reductions are possible and to report thereon in the context of the sixth annual progress report;

42. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in the sixth annual progress report specific information on the guaranteed maximum price contracts and the activities of the external consultant that the United Nations has hired;

43. *Expresses its concern* that no specific information has been shared with Member States concerning associated costs, and requests the Secretary-General to include such information in the sixth annual progress report and to make every effort to absorb such costs within the approved budget of the capital master plan;

44. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that works of art, masterpieces and other gifts are appropriately handled during all the stages of the renovation work and that all associated costs are foreseen;

45. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that measures and procedures are put in place by the Office of the Capital Master Plan to appropriately handle the works of art, masterpieces and other gifts during all the stages of the renovation unless otherwise indicated by the Member States concerned and to report thereon in the context of the forthcoming sixth annual progress report;

46. *Decides* to appropriate $992,771,819 for the biennium 2008-2009;

47. *Reaffirms* the mixed one-time and multi-year assessment option based on the regular budget scale of assessments applicable for 2007, as stipulated in paragraphs 14 to 20 of its resolution 61/251, and decides that there will be no

[6] A/61/549.

change in the payment schedule for Member States' contributions to the capital master plan;

48. *Requests* the Secretary-General to improve coordination of the capital master plan with the Department of Public Information in the context of reporting on matters and progress relating to the capital master plan and to clarify the existing arrangements that are in place to avoid damage to the image of the United Nations with regard to all aspects of the capital master plan;

49. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to update the Member States through regular informal briefings, besides submitting annual progress reports, on all aspects of the implementation of the capital master plan, including the current status, significant activities carried out since the previous report and risk analysis information outlining any risks identified, action to be taken, status and trends, and to update the relevant information on its website on a regular basis;

50. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to include in the sixth annual progress report information on lessons learned in the implementation of the capital master plan so far and how they are being utilized to improve the current and future planning and implementation of the capital master plan.

United Nations A/62/563/Add.1

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Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Report of the Fifth Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Steven Ssenabulya **Nkayivu** (Uganda)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2007, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 3rd, 6th to 11th, 13th, 15th, 17th, 21st and 23rd to 26th meetings, on 9, 16, 18, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 30 October, 5 and 12 November and 6, 17, 18, 19 and 21 December 2007. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/62/SR.3, 6-11, 13, 15, 17, 21 and 23-26).

3. At the 10th meeting, on 25 October 2007, introductory statements were made by the Secretary-General and the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (see A/C.5/62/SR.10).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Reports of the Secretary-General[1]

* At its 26th meeting, on 21 December 2007, the Committee considered and adopted its draft report which had been submitted by the Secretariat on behalf of the Rapporteur, was circulated in the Committee under the provisional symbol A/C.5/62/L.23 (Parts I and II) (see A/C.5/62/SR.26) and is reproduced in its entirety in the present document.

[1] A/62/6 (Introduction) and Corr.1, (Sects. 1-3), (Sect. 4), (Sect. 4) and Corr.1, (Sects. 5-7), (Sect. 8) and Corr.1, (Sects. 9-11), (Sect. 12) and Corr.1, (Sect. 13) and Add.1, (Sects. 14-18), (Sect. 19) and Corr.1, (Sects. 20-22), (Sect. 23) and Corr.1, (Sect. 24) and Corr.1, (Sects. 25-27), (Sect. 28), (Sect. 28A) and Corr.1, (Sect. 28B) and Corr.1, (Sect. 28C) and Corr.1, (Sect. 28D), (Sect. 28E) and Corr.1 and 2, (Sects. 28F and G), Sect. 29 and Corr.1, (Sects. 20-35), (Income sects. 1-3) and A/62/91.

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Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[2]

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its forty-seventh session[3]

Report of the Secretary-General on the changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 (A/62/80/Add.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 and to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 (A/62/125)

Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the experience of the utilization of the contingency fund (A/62/229)

Statements submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.5/62/12, A/C.5/62/14, A/C.5/62/15, A/C.5/62/19 and A/C.5/62/20)

International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO

Report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget for the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO for the biennium 2008-2009 (A/62/6 (Sect. 13) and Add.1)

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/7/Add.10)

Administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

Report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board (A/62/175)

Report of the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications arising from the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board (A/C.5/62/2)

Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/7/Add.3 and A/62/7/Add.13)

Request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/7/Add.5)

Note by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/62/3)

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive and resumed substantive sessions of 2007

Report of the Secretary-General (A/62/515)

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/7/Add.16)

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[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (A/62/7 and Corr.1), A/62/7/Add.1 and Corr.1 and A/62/349.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/62/16).

Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Report of the Secretary-General (A/62/512 and Add. 1-3, Add.4 and Corr.1 and Add.5)

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/7/Add.29)

Revised estimates resulting from resolution and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council

Report of the Secretary-General (A/62/125)

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/7/Add.25)

Revised estimates relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 under sections 17, 20, 21, 27, 28C, 28D, 28E, 28F and 28G to ensure operational preparedness and business continuity in a protracted human influenza pandemic crisis

Report of the Secretary-General (A/62/328)

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/7/Add.2 and Corr.1)

Development Account

Fifth progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of projects financed from the Development Account (A/62/123)

Report of the Secretary-General (A/62/466)

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/7/Add.6)

Construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa

Report of the Secretary-General (A/62/487)

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/7/Add.11)

Construction of additional conference facilities at the Vienna International Centre

Report of the Secretary-General (A/62/358)

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/7/Add.9)

Supplementary agreement between the United Nations and the Carnegie Foundation concerning the use of the Peace Palace at The Hague

Report of the Secretary-General (A/62/496)

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/7/Add.8)

Financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

Report of the Secretary-General (A/62/509)

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/7/Add.12)

Administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2007

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/62/336)

Report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2007[4]

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/7/Add.1 and Corr.1 and A/62/353)

United Nations Postal Administration

Report of the Secretary-General on the contingent liability reserve for the United Nations Postal Administration (A/61/900)

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/350)

Standards of accommodation for air travel

Report of the Secretary-General (A/61/188 and Corr.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on the review of standards of travel and entitlements (A/61/801)

Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/61/661 and A/62/351)

Contingency fund

Report of the Secretary-General on the reviews of the experience of the utilization of the contingency fund (A/62/229)

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/349)

[4] Ibid., *Supplement No. 30* and corrigendum (A/62/30 and Corr.1).

Effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation

Report of the Secretary-General (A/62/587)

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/7/Add.30)

United Nations Office for Partnerships

Report of the Secretary-General (A/62/220)

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/363)

5. At its 26th meeting, on 21 December, in accordance with the guidelines for the use of the contingency fund (see General Assembly resolution 42/211, annex), the Committee considered a consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates that were subject to the criteria for the use of the contingency fund (A/C.5/62/22) and the related oral statement of the Advisory Committee. After due consideration, the Committee decided to recommend charges totalling $19,269,500 to the contingency fund (see A/C.5/62/SR.26).

6. The table below summarizes the recommendations of the Fifth Committee for each section of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009. The recommendations are based on the proposals of the Secretary-General,[5] the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions thereon,[6] revised estimates submitted by the Secretary-General and the appropriations required for the implementation of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its current session.

[5] A/62/6 (Introduction) and Corr.1, (Sects. 1-3), (Sect. 4), (Sect. 4) and Corr.1, (Sects. 5-7), (Sect. 8) and Corr.1, (Sects. 9-11), (Sect. 12) and Corr.1, (Sect. 13) and Add.1, (Sects. 14-18), (Sect. 19) and Corr.1, (Sects. 20-22), (Sect. 23) and Corr.1, (Sect. 24) and Corr.1, (Sects. 25-27), (Sect. 28), (Sect. 28A) and Corr.1, (Sect. 28B) and Corr.1, (Sect. 28C) and Corr.1, (Sect. 28D), (Sect. 28E) and Corr.1 and 2, (Sects. 28F and G), Sect. 29 and Corr.1, (Sects. 20-35), (Income sects. 1-3) and A/62/91.

[6] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (A/62/7 and Corr.1), A/62/7/Add.1 and Corr.1 and A/62/349.

Summary of the recommendations of the Fifth Committee on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Amount approved		*Post changes related to programme budget implications and revised estimates*
A. Expenditure sections			
1. Overall policymaking, direction and coordination			
Proposed programme budget	77 434.1		
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	(662.8)		
Fifth Committee:			
Vacancy rates	(760.6)		
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(469.3)		
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(299.3)		
Other adjustments	178.6		
Financial implications:			
Updated terms of reference of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee	1 186.5	2	1 P-5, 1 GS(OL)
United Nations system of administration of justice	11 860.4	39	1 D-2, 2 D-1, 10 P-5, 1 P-4, 7 P-3, 2 P-2/1, 11 GS(OL), 5 LL
Report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board	748.2		
Subtotal	**89 215.8**	**41**	
2. General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management			
Proposed programme budget	620 822.4		
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget	(218.3)		
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	6 827.8		
Fifth Committee:			
Vacancy rates	(9 591.1)		
Maintenance of travel, contractual services, and general operating expenses	(729.4)		
Other adjustments	(432.9)		
Financial implications:			
United Nations system of administration of justice	1 737.3		
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	10 357.4		
Human Rights Council decision 3/14	(307.4)	13	8 P-3, 6 P-4, 11 P-5, (12) GS(OL)
Human Rights Council resolution 5/1	874.0		
Subtotal	**629 339.8**	**13**	

	Amount approved		*Post changes related to programme budget implications and revised estimates*
3. Political affairs			
Proposed programme budget	697 000.6		
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	625.6		
Fifth Committee:			
Vacancy rates	(1 378.3)		
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(416.0)		
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(72.7)		
Special political missions	(200 150.0)		
Subtotal	**495 609.2**		
4. Disarmament			
Proposed programme budget	21 708.1		
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	(27.2)		
Fifth Committee:			
Vacancy rates	(289.4)		
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(36.9)		
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(89.1)		
Financial implications:			
United Nations Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa	342.4	3	2 LL, 1 P-3
Subtotal	**21 607.9**	**3**	
5. Peacekeeping operations			
Proposed programme budget	101 535.1		
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	3 108.9		
Fifth Committee:			
Vacancy rates	(1 425.0)		
Maintenance of travel, contractual services, and general operating expenses	(497.7)		
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(374.1)		
Financial implications:			
Strengthening the capacity of the Organization to manage and sustain peace operations	(934.5)	(4)	1 USG, 2 ASG, (2) P-3, (4) P-4, (1) GS(OL)
Subtotal	**101 412.7**	**(4)**	
6. Peaceful uses of outer space			
Proposed programme budget	6 581.2		

	Amount approved	*Post changes related to programme budget implications and revised estimates*	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	384.1		
Fifth Committee:			
Vacancy rates	(96.0)		
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(14.2)		
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(19.3)		
Financial implications:			
Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response	604.0	3	3 P-4
Subtotal	**7 439.8**	**3**	
7. International Court of Justice			
Proposed programme budget	40 220.2		
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget	(759.9)		
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	2 370.5		
Fifth Committee:			
Vacancy rates	(422.5)		
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(141.5)		
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(66.4)		
Subtotal	**41 200.4**		
8. Legal affairs			
Proposed programme budget	44 839.1		
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	134.2		
Fifth Committee:			
Vacancy rates	(671.6)		
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(160.4)		
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(34.4)		
Financial implications:			
Oceans and law of the sea	1 962.1		
Subtotal	**46 069.0**		
9. Economic and social affairs			
Proposed programme budget	162 353.9		
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	(906.5)		

	Amount approved	*Post changes related to programme budget implications and revised estimates*
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(2 557.5)	
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(340.6)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(164.5)	
Subtotal	**158 384.8**	
10. Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States		
Proposed programme budget	5 569.6	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	(17.5)	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(83.7)	
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(21.8)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(6.2)	
Subtotal	**5 440.4**	
11. United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development		
Proposed programme budget	11 852.9	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	(53.3)	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(162.2)	
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(58.3)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(23.2)	
Financial implications:		
Modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting on Africa's development needs	86.0	
Subtotal	**11 641.9**	
12. Trade and development		
Proposed programme budget	122 405.3	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	3 708.2	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(2 018.0)	
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(198.0)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(151.4)	
Subtotal	**123 746.1**	

	Amount approved	*Post changes related to programme budget implications and revised estimates*
13. International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO		
Proposed programme budget	28 771.8	
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget	(132.0)	
Fifth Committee:		
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(540.0)	
Subtotal	**28 099.8**	
14. Environment		
Proposed programme budget	13 658.8	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	384.4	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(223.1)	
Maintenance of travel, contractual services, and general operating expenses	(16.4)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(7.1)	
Subtotal	**13 796.6**	
15. Human settlements		
Proposed programme budget	20 387.9	
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget	(29.1)	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	550.1	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(324.0)	
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(49.0)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(15.1)	
Subtotal	**20 520.8**	
16. International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice		
Proposed programme budget	35 500.2	
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget	(47.1)	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	2 063.4	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(518.2)	

	Amount approved	*Post changes related to programme budget implications and revised estimates*
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(122.2)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(57.1)	
Subtotal	**36 819.0**	
17. Economic and social development in Africa		
Proposed programme budget	119 475.0	
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget	25.7	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	2 505.7	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(1 575.9)	
Maintenance of contractual services and general operating expenses	(349.4)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(303.7)	
Other adjustments	(20.5)	
Financial implications:		
United Nations system of administration of justice	41.3	
Subtotal	**119 798.2**	
18. Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific		
Proposed programme budget	81 193.9	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	4 198.3	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(1 336.2)	
Maintenance of contractual services and general operating expenses	(142.4)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(79.9)	
Financial implications:		
United Nations system of administration of justice	92.7	
Subtotal	**83 926.4**	
19. Economic development in Europe		
Proposed programme budget	59 606.3	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	1 379.4	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(1 003.8)	
Maintenance of contractual services and general operating expenses	(12.2)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(52.6)	
Subtotal	**59 917.1**	

	Amount approved	*Post changes related to programme budget implications and revised estimates*
20. Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean		
Proposed programme budget	103 507.3	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	2 791.7	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(1 590.5)	
Maintenance of contractual services and general operating expenses	(255.5)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(106.1)	
Financial implications:		
United Nations system of administration of justice	98.1	
Subtotal	**104 445.0**	
21. Economic and social development in Western Asia		
Proposed programme budget	59 759.0	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	(596.0)	
Fifth Committee.		
Vacancy rates	(892.8)	
Maintenance of contractual services and general operating expenses	(123.6)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(76.6)	
Financial implications:		
United Nations system of administration of justice	37.5	
Subtotal	**58 107.5**	
22. Regular programme of technical cooperation		
Proposed programme budget	50 250.5	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	1 617.6	
Fifth Committee:		
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(916.7)	
Subtotal	**50 951.4**	
23. Human rights		
Proposed programme budget	112 835.4	
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget	(598.5)	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	2 028.5	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(1 448.4)	

	Amount approved		*Post changes related to programme budget implications and revised estimates*
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(354.5)		
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(126.9)		
Financial implications:			
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	415.5		
Human Rights Council decision 3/14	1 072.5	5	2 P-4, 2 P-3, 1 P-2/1
Human Rights Council resolution 5/1	3 114.8	17	1 P-5, 14 P-4, 1 P-3, 1 P-2/1
Subtotal	**116 938.4**	**22**	
24. International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees			
Proposed programme budget	71 511.3		
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	3 044.7		
Fifth Committee:			
Vacancy rates	(18.6)		
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(1 468.1)		
Subtotal	**73 069.3**		
25. Palestine refugees			
Proposed programme budget	39 428.6		
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	1 115.1		
Fifth Committee:			
Vacancy rates	(678.4)		
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(0.2)		
Other adjustments	862.4		
Subtotal	**40 727.5**		
26. Humanitarian assistance			
Proposed programme budget	28 908.6		
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	184.5		
Fifth Committee:			
Vacancy rates	(352.3)		
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(135.7)		
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(112.8)		
Subtotal	**28 492.3**		
27. Public information			
Proposed programme budget	189 901.1		

	Amount approved	*Post changes related to programme budget implications and revised estimates*
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	(1 252.5)	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(2 699.6)	
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(911.0)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(212.5)	
Other adjustments	(825.0)	
Subtotal	**184 000.5**	
28A. Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management		
Proposed programme budget	13 830.0	
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget	1 225.3	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	(99.0)	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(256.3)	
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(19.3)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(4.9)	
Financial implications:		
United Nations system of administration of justice	326.7	(2) (1) P-5, 1 P-4, (2) GS(OL)
Subtotal	**15 002.5**	**(2)**
28B. Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts		
Proposed programme budget	40 519.5	
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget	(202.3)	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	(367.9)	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(595.5)	
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(139.6)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(44.3)	
Subtotal	**39 169.9**	
28C. Office of Human Resources Management		
Proposed programme budget	76 629.3	
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget	(3 473.4)	

	Amount approved	*Post changes related to programme budget implications and revised estimates*
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	(1 058.4)	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(764.4)	
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(880.6)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(33.9)	
Financial implications:		
United Nations system of administration of justice	269.5	
Subtotal	**70 688.1**	
28D. Office of Central Support Services		
Proposed programme budget	264 611.0	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	(5 485.6)	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(1 729.6)	
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(4 418.7)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(258.7)	
Office of Central Support Services	(18 000.0)	
Financial implications:		
Strengthening the capacity of the Organization to manage and sustain peace operations	237.3	1 1 D-1
Updated terms of reference of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee	46.8	
United Nations system of administration of justice	1 297.6	
Subtotal	**236 300.1**	**1**
28E. Administration, Geneva		
Proposed programme budget	110 857.7	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	3 716.6	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(1 369.7)	
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(989.0)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(198.4)	
Financial implications:		
United Nations system of administration of justice	167.8	(2) (1) P-3, (1) GS(OL)
Subtotal	**112 185.0**	**(2)**

	Amount approved	*Post changes related to programme budget implications and revised estimates*
28F. Administration, Vienna		
Proposed programme budget	36 554.0	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	3 300.2	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(370.6)	
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(139.4)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(300.6)	
Financial implications:		
United Nations system of administration of justice	(23.8) (1)	(1) P-3
Subtotal	**39 019.8 (1)**	
28G. Administration, Nairobi		
Proposed programme budget	27 065.8	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	1 300.3	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(339.2)	
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(155.6)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(18.3)	
Financial implications:		
United Nations system of administration of justice	(14.1) (2)	(1) P-3, (1) LL
Subtotal	**27 838.9 (2)**	
29. Internal oversight		
Proposed programme budget	41 033.1	
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget	(5 523.1)	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	149.8	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(430.5)	
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(235.2)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(60.6)	
Other adjustments	1 064.2	
Subtotal	**35 997.7**	
30. Jointly financed administrative activities		
Proposed programme budget	11 934.7	

	Amount approved	*Post changes related to programme budget implications and revised estimates*
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget	(16.6)	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	8.2	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(146.5)	
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(59.1)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(241.7)	
Other adjustments	(19.7)	
Subtotal	**11 459.3**	
31. Special expenses		
Proposed programme budget	100 384.4	
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget	(170.8)	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	(1 193.7)	
Fifth Committee:		
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(232.0)	
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(1 776.3)	
Subtotal	**97 011.6**	
32. Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance		
Proposed programme budget	58 862.8	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	1 113.4	
Fifth Committee:		
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(1 193.6)	
Subtotal	**58 782.6**	
33. Safety and security		
Proposed programme budget	209 765.9	
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget	(1 365.6)	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	1 445.5	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(2 858.2)	
Field security vacancy rate	(7 500.0)	
Maintenance of travel, contractual services and general operating expenses	(776.5)	

	Amount approved	*Post changes related to programme budget implications and revised estimates*
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(1 358.6)	
Other adjustments	(183.2)	
Subtotal	**197 169.3**	
34. Development Account		
Proposed programme budget	16 480.9	
Fifth Committee:		
Other non-post 2 per cent reduction	(329.6)	
Development Account	2 500.0	
Subtotal	**18 651.3**	
35. Staff assessment		
Proposed programme budget	461 815.0	
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget	(1 052.7)	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	5 360.3	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(7 108.5)	
Other adjustments	413.7	
Financial implications:		
Strengthening the capacity of the Organization to manage and sustain peace operations	(116.6)	
Updated terms of reference of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee	54.3	
United Nations system of administration of justice	1 119.2	
United Nations Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa	40.0	
Space-Based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response	78.0	
Human Rights Council decision 3/14	324.7	
Human Rights Council resolution 5/1	438.6	
Subtotal	**461 366.0**	
Total, expenditure sections	**4 171 359.7**	
B. Income sections		
1. Income from staff assessment		
Proposed programme budget	466 273.5	
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget	(1 052.7)	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	5 360.3	

	Amount approved	*Post changes related to programme budget implications and revised estimates*
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	(7 152.6)	
Other adjustments	413.7	
Financial implications:		
Strengthening the capacity of the Organization to manage and sustain peace operations	(116.6)	
Updated terms of reference of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee	54.3	
United Nations system of administration of justice	1 119.2	
United Nations Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa	40.0	
Space-Based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response	78.0	
Human Rights Council decision 3/14	324.7	
Human Rights Council resolution 5/1	438.6	
Subtotal	**465 780.4**	
2. General income		
Proposed programme budget	47 934.7	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	12.2	
Subtotal	**47 946.9**	
3. Services to the public		
Proposed programme budget	1 132.1	
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget	69.3	
Recosting of the proposed programme budget and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee	82.8	
Fifth Committee:		
Vacancy rates	449.1	
Subtotal	**1 733.3**	
Total, income sections	**515 460.6**	

Abbreviations: ASG — Assistant Secretary-General; GS — General Service; LL — Local level; OL — Other level; USG — Under-Secretary-General.

II. Consideration of proposals on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

A. Draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.18

7. At its 26th meeting, on 21 December, the Committee had before it draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.18, entitled "Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009", submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations.

8. At the same meeting, a recorded vote was requested by the representative of the United States of America.

9. Also at the same meeting, before the vote, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Belgium; a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America after the vote (see A/C.5/62/SR.26).

10. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.18 by a recorded vote of 141 to 1 (see para. 48, draft resolution I). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

United States of America.

Abstaining:

None.

B. Draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.19

11. At its 26th meeting, on 21 December, the Committee had before it draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.19, entitled "Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009", submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations.

12. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.19 without a vote (see para. 48, draft resolution II).

13. In draft resolution II A, the Committee recommended a gross appropriation of $4,171,359,700, and in draft resolution II B an estimate for income (other than income derived from staff assessment) of $49,680,200. The net expenditure for the biennium 2008-2009 is thus estimated at $4,121,679,500. The financing of the requirements is dealt with in draft resolution II C.

14. In draft resolution II B, the Committee also recommended an estimate of $465,780,400 as staff assessment for transfer in the course of the biennium 2008-2009 to the Tax Equalization Fund, from which credits are distributed to Member States in accordance with General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955.

C. Draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.21

15. At its 26th meeting, on 21 December, the Committee had before it draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.21, entitled "Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 2008-2009", submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations.

16. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.21 without a vote (see para. 48, draft resolution IV).

D. Draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.22

17. At its 26th meeting, on 21 December, the Committee had before it draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.22, entitled "Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2008-2009", submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations.

18. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.22 without a vote (see para. 48, draft resolution V).

19. In the draft resolution, the Committee recommended that the Working Capital Fund be established at the level of $150 million.

III. Consideration of proposals on special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

20. At its 26th meeting, on 21 December, the Committee had before it draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.20, entitled "Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009", submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations. In the course of its deliberations on the special subjects, the Committee considered the following questions:

International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO

21. The Committee considered this question at its 17th and 26th meetings, on 12 November and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.17 and 26).

Administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

22. The Committee considered this question at its 17th and 26th meetings, on 12 November and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.17 and 26).

Request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

23. The Committee considered this question at its 17th and 26th meetings, on 12 November and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.17 and 26).

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive and resumed substantive sessions of 2007

24. The Committee considered this question at its 21st and 26th meetings, on 6 and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.21 and 26).

Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

25. The Committee considered this question at its 23rd and 26th meetings, on 17 and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.23 and 26).

26. At the 26th meeting, on 21 December, a recorded vote was requested on section V of draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.20.

27. At the same meeting, statements were made after the vote by the representatives of Chile and Lebanon.

28. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted, by a recorded vote of 92 to none, with 14 abstentions, section V of draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.20. The voting was as follows:[7]

In favour:

Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia,

[7] The delegations of Mexico, Guatemala, Colombia, Uruguay, Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh, India and Afghanistan subsequently indicated that they had intended to vote in favour. The delegations of the Sudan, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Algeria and Yemen subsequently indicated that they had intended to abstain.

Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Bangladesh, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malawi, Mexico, Panama, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Uruguay.

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council

29. The Committee considered this question at its 23rd and 26th meetings, on 17 and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.23 and 26).

Revised estimates relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 under sections 17, 20, 21, 27, 28C, 28D, 28E, 28F and 28G to ensure operational preparedness and business continuity in a protracted human influenza pandemic crisis

30. The Committee considered this question at its 7th and 26th meetings, on 18 October and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.7 and 26).

Development Account

31. The Committee considered this question at its 13th and 26th meetings, on 30 October and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.13 and 26).

Construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa

32. The Committee considered this question at its 17th and 26th meetings, on 12 November and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.17 and 26).

Construction of additional conference facilities at the Vienna International Centre

33. The Committee considered this question at its 17th and 26th meetings, on 12 November and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.17 and 26).

Supplementary agreement between the United Nations and the Carnegie Foundation concerning the use of the Peace Palace at The Hague

34. The Committee considered this question at its 17th and 26th meetings, on 12 November and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.17 and 26).

Financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

35. The Committee considered this question at its 17th and 26th meetings, on 12 November and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.17 and 26).

Administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2007

36. The Committee considered this question at its 8th and 26th meetings, on 23 October and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.8 and 26).

United Nations Postal Administration

37. The Committee considered this question at its 6th and 26th meetings, on 16 October and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.6 and 26).

Standards of accommodation for air travel

38. The Committee considered this question at its 6th and 26th meetings, on 16 October and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.6 and 26).

Contingency fund

39. The Committee considered this question at its 26th meeting, on 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.26).

Effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation

40. The Committee considered this question at its 26th meeting, on 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.26).

Joint Inspection Unit

41. The Committee considered this question at its 3rd and 26th meetings, on 9 October and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.3 and 26).

International Civil Service Commission

42. The Committee considered this question at its 8th and 26th meetings, on 23 October and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.8 and 26).

Administration of justice

43. The Committee considered this question at its 15th and 26th meetings, on 5 November and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.15 and 26).

Use of 300-series and 100-series appointments

44. The Committee considered this question at its 26th meeting, on 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.26).

United Nations Office for Partnerships

45. The Committee considered this question at its 7th and 26th meetings, on 18 October and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.7 and 26).

Jointly financed gross budget of the Department of Safety and Security

46. The Committee considered this question at its 10th, 11th and 26th meetings, on 25 and 26 October and 21 December (see A/C.5/62/SR.10, 11 and 26).

47. At its 26th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.20 without a vote (see para. 48, draft resolution III).

IV. Recommendations of the Fifth Committee

48. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/253 of 24 December 2001, 58/270 of 23 December 2003 and 60/246 of 23 December 2005,

Reaffirming its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 42/211 of 21 December 1987, 45/248 B, part VI, of 21 December 1990, 55/231 of 23 December 2000, 58/269 of 23 December 2003, 60/247 of 23 December 2005 and 61/254 of 22 December 2006,

Reaffirming also the respective mandates of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Committee for Programme and Coordination in the consideration of the proposed programme budget,

Reaffirming further the role of the General Assembly, through the Fifth Committee, in carrying out a thorough analysis and approval of posts and financial resources, as well as of human resources policies,

Recognizing the detrimental effect of the withholding of assessed contributions on the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations,

Having considered the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009,[1] the report of the Secretary-General on the review of the experience of the utilization of the contingency fund,[2] the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3] chapter III.B of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination[4] and the report of the Secretary-General on the changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009,[5]

Stressing that the established procedures for the formulation, implementation and approval of the programme budget must be maintained and strictly followed,

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[1] A/62/6 (Introduction) and Corr.1, (Sects. 1-3), (Sect. 4) and Corr.1, (Sects. 5-7), (Sect. 8) and Corr.1, (Sects. 9-11), (Sect. 12) and Corr.1, (Sect. 13) and Add.1, (Sects. 14-18), (Sect. 19) and Corr.1, (Sects. 20-22), (Sect. 23) and Corr.1, (Sect. 24) and Corr.1, (Sects. 25-27), (Sect. 28), (Sect. 28A) and Corr.1, (Sect. 28B) and Corr.1, (Sect. 28C) and Corr.1, (Sect. 28D), (Sect. 28E) and Corr.1 and 2, (Sects. 28F and G), (Sect. 29) and Corr.1, (Sects. 30-35), (Income sects. 1-3) and A/62/91.

[2] A/62/229.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (A/62/7 and Corr.1), A/62/7/Add.1 and Corr.1 and A/62/349.

[4] Ibid., *Supplement No. 16* (A/62/16).

[5] A/62/80/Add.1.

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[6] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

Policy issues

2. *Decides* that the staffing table for the biennium 2008-2009 shall be as set out in the annex to the present resolution;

3. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibility for administrative and budgetary matters;

4. *Also reaffirms* rule 153 of its rules of procedure;

5. *Further reaffirms* that no changes to the budget methodology, to established budgetary procedures and practices or to the financial regulations may be implemented without prior review and approval by the General Assembly, in accordance with established budgetary procedures;

6. *Reaffirms* the established budgetary procedures and methodology, based on its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strictly abide by the above-mentioned established budgetary procedures and methodology in future budget submissions;

8. *Stresses* that all Member States should fulfil their financial obligations as set out in the Charter of the United Nations on time, in full and without conditions;

9. *Notes with concern* the piecemeal approach to the budget process, and requests the Secretary-General, for all future proposed programme budgets, to take the necessary steps to avoid such a piecemeal approach to the budget process and ensure the fullest possible picture of the Organization's requirements for future bienniums;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in preparing the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011, to ensure full compliance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 55/231 and 58/269 and with the relevant recommendations made by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Committee for Programme and Coordination, bearing in mind the intergovernmental, multilateral and international character of the United Nations;

11. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing the information necessary to enable Member States to make well-informed decisions;

12. *Reiterates* the priorities of the Organization for the period 2008-2009 as outlined in its resolution 61/235 of 22 December 2006;

13. *Also reiterates* that the allocation of resources should reflect fully the priorities established in the biennial programme plan;[7]

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[6] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (A/62/7 and Corr.1).

[7] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/61/6/Rev.1).

14. *Emphasizes* that the resources proposed by the Secretary-General should be commensurate with all mandated programmes and activities in order to ensure their full, efficient and effective implementation;

15. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as contained in chapter III.B of its report;[4]

16. *Approves* the changes to programme 4, Peacekeeping operations, of the biennial programme plan for the period 2008-2009, as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General;[5]

17. *Also approves* the changes to the programme narratives of section 6, Peaceful uses of outer space; section 9, Economic and social affairs; section 11, United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development; and section 23, Human rights, of the proposed programme budget, as reflected in the reports and statements of programme budget implications of the Secretary-General;[8]

18. *Emphasizes* that programmes and activities mandated by the General Assembly must be respected and implemented fully in the most effective and efficient manner;

19. *Takes note* of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as contained in paragraph 40 of its report;[6]

20. *Reaffirms* section II of its resolution 61/244 of 22 December 2006;

21. *Also reaffirms* paragraph 22 of its resolution 61/266 of 16 May 2007;

Accountability

22. *Recalls* its resolutions 61/245 of 22 December 2006 and 61/279 of 29 June 2006, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General specifically define accountability as well as clear accountability mechanisms, including to the General Assembly, and propose clear parameters for its application and the instruments for its rigorous enforcement, without exception, at all levels, during the sixty-second session;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen his efforts to achieve greater transparency at all levels;

Extrabudgetary funding

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011, to submit estimates of the total amount of resources, from all sources of financing, that he should have at his disposal to be able to implement fully the mandated programmes and activities efficiently and effectively;

25. *Encourages* donors to continue, where appropriate, to increase their contributions to the core budgets of the departments of the Secretariat;

[8] A/C.5/62/12, A/C.5/62/14, A/C.5/62/15, A/C.5/62/19, A/C.5/62/20, A/62/125 and A/62/515.

Results-based budgeting

26. *Reaffirms* paragraph 28 of its resolution 55/231, stresses the importance of results-based budgeting and the need for adequate training to ensure its full implementation, and looks forward to its review at its future sessions;

Budget presentation

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in future budget submissions, to propose measures to offset budget increases, wherever possible, without undermining the implementation of mandated programmes and activities;

28. *Decides* that supplementary financial information being presented to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, including, inter alia, detailed explanations of requirements by component and source of funds and by object of expenditure, should also be made available to Member States, including through the Fifth Committee website;

Vacancy rates and staffing

29. *Expresses its concern* at the high vacancy rate, especially in the Professional category of posts, in certain areas of the Organization, particularly in some duty stations and regional commissions, emphasizes in this regard its negative impact on the effective delivery of mandated programmes and activities, and requests the Secretary-General to recruit staff expeditiously through proper planning and by streamlining personnel practices and procedures to undertake necessary measures to reduce the vacancy rates;

30. *Reaffirms* that the vacancy rate is a tool for budgetary calculations and should not be used to achieve budgetary savings;

31. *Also reaffirms* that deliberate management decisions should not be taken to keep a certain number of posts vacant, as this action makes the budget process less transparent and the management of human and financial resources less efficient;

32. *Takes note* of paragraph 21 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[6]

33. *Notes* the practice of incremental budgeting where only new requirements are justified, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that whenever new proposals lead to requests for additional resources, sufficient effort is made to meet the new requirements using existing resources;

34. *Recalls* its resolution 35/217 of 17 December 1980, reaffirms the role of the General Assembly with regard to the structure of the Secretariat, including the creation, conversion, suppression and redeployment of posts, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Assembly with comprehensive information on all decisions involving established and temporary high-level posts, including equivalent positions financed from the regular budget and from extrabudgetary resources;

35. *Reiterates* that any transfer of resources between posts and non-post objects of expenditures would require the approval of the General Assembly;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services to include in its report on the evaluation of human resources management,

as requested in its resolution 61/235, a comprehensive review of the implementation of the recruitment, promotion and mobility policies of United Nations staff over the past five years and to report thereon to the General Assembly in the context of human resources management at its sixty-third session;

37. *Recalls* paragraph VIII.85 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[6] and encourages the Secretary-General to ensure uniformity of performance targets in the Secretariat, taking into account the unique circumstances of each duty station and regional commission with regard to the filling of vacant posts, and to apply lessons learned as a means to improve performance in timely recruitment;

38. *Notes* the need for more justification to substantiate the creation of new posts or the reclassification of existing posts;

39. *Recalls* its decision to authorize the Secretary-General to have limited budgetary discretion for the bienniums 2006-2007 and 2008-2009, in accordance with section III of its resolution 60/283 of 7 July 2006;

40. *Requests* the Secretary-General to expedite recruitment for P-2 posts, in accordance with established procedures, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

41. *Decides* that a vacancy rate of 6.5 per cent for Professional staff, 3.5 per cent for General Service staff and 27.2 per cent for field security staff shall be used as a basis for the calculation of the budget for the biennium 2008-2009;

Non-post costs

42. *Decides* to maintain the resources for travel of staff, contractual services and general operating expenses at the 2006-2007 level after recosting, and also decides that the relevant adjustments should not be applied to travel provisions of the regional commissions;

43. *Also decides* to reduce non-post resources by 2 per cent, other than for travel of staff, contractual services and general operating expenses;

Consultants

44. *Requests* the Secretary-General to select consultants and experts, as well as staff charged against general temporary assistance, on as wide a geographical basis as possible, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of General Assembly resolution 53/221 of 7 April 1999;

Information technology and conference servicing

45. *Affirms* the importance of compatibility of all information technology resources within and across duty stations, and stresses that the resources requested for this purpose in the current budget should be fully integrated in the future enterprise resource system;

46. *Stresses* that the information and communications technology strategy should be implemented in a manner that will benefit all Headquarters departments, field missions, duty stations and regional commissions and their subregional offices, bearing in mind the different operational needs and environments within which they function;

47. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring that there is no discriminatory treatment among the principal organs of the United Nations and the Main Committees and subsidiary bodies and that they are provided with adequate and quality conference servicing and support;

Training

48. *Requests* the Secretary-General to allocate the approved resources for training on the basis of need and in an equitable manner, throughout the Secretariat, including for duty stations and regional commissions, and in this context stresses that equal training opportunities should be available for all staff, in accordance with their functions and categories;

49. *Stresses* that workshops, seminars and training courses should take advantage of the diverse sources of training opportunities available throughout the regions of the world;

Part I. Overall policymaking, direction and coordination

Section 1. Overall policymaking, direction and coordination

50. *Reaffirms* Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations;

51. *Stresses* the importance of strengthened accountability in the Organization and of ensuring greater accountability of the Secretary-General to Member States, inter alia, for the effective and efficient implementation of legislative mandates and the use of human and financial resources;

52. *Also stresses* the importance of accountability and responsiveness of the Executive Office of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly;

53. *Emphasizes* that the Executive Office of the Secretary-General should lead the entire Organization in the context of reflection of geographic distribution and gender balance, in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions and the efficient utilization of non-post resources;

54. *Stresses* that members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions shall discharge their duties in full independence and in the sole interest of the Organization and its entire membership;

55. *Recognizes* the increase in the workload of, as well as the increased diversity and complexity of the questions examined by, the Advisory Committee without a commensurate increase in the staffing of the Committee's secretariat;

56. *Decides* to approve one P-4 post to strengthen the staffing of the Advisory Committee's secretariat, and requests the Secretary-General to review the functions of the post in the context of his next budget submission;

Section 2. General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management

57. *Requests* the Secretary-General ensure that all duty stations are given equal treatment in respect of the application of modern technologies;

58. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving maximum quality of those

services, with full respect for the specificities of the six official languages and taking into account their respective workloads;

59. *Notes* the critical importance of the services provided by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to expedite the filling of all vacant posts in the Department in accordance with established procedures;

60. *Takes note* of paragraph I.25 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[6]

61. *Decides* to approve seven P-5 positions for Senior Revisers at United Nations Headquarters in New York;

62. *Requests* the Secretary-General to improve the on-time submission of documents and to institute measures for the accountability of the author departments for the late submission of the documents in the context of the report requested in its resolution 62/225 of 22 December 2007;

63. *Decides* not to approve a D-2 post proposed for the Director of the Central Planning and Coordination Division in New York;

64. *Also decides* to defer the establishment of a P-4 post proposed for the position of Deputy Chief of the Information Management and Technology Unit of the Central Planning and Coordination Division in New York until the start of the implementation of the information and communications technology reform plan;

65. *Welcomes* the efforts made in workload-sharing among the duty stations, and requests the Secretary-General actively to pursue efficiencies to be gained through possible workload-sharing in conference services among United Nations Headquarters and other duty stations;

Part II. Political affairs

Section 3. Political affairs

66. *Regrets* the high vacancy rate in authorized posts for the United Nations Register of Damage caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and urges the Secretary-General to expedite the filling of these posts as a matter of priority;

67. *Emphasizes* the need for collaboration between the Department of Political Affairs, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure systemic cooperation so as to prevent duplication among the three departments;

68. *Takes note* of paragraph II.18 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and decides to approve the positions referred to under general temporary assistance;

69. *Decides* that the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support shall be appointed by the Secretary-General following consultations with Member States, that for this purpose the Secretary-General shall appoint the Assistant Secretary-General with due regard for geographic rotation and that in so doing he shall be guided by the provisions of paragraph 3 (e) of General Assembly resolution 46/232 of 2 March 1992, in which the Assembly decided, in particular, that, as a general rule, no national of a Member State should succeed a national of that State

in a senior post and that there should be no monopoly on senior posts by nationals of any State or group of States;

70. *Also decides* that the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support shall serve for one fixed term of five years without possibility of renewal;

Section 5. Peacekeeping operations

71. *Regrets* the slow progress in recruitment for the posts approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/279 on strengthening the capacity of the United Nations to manage and sustain peacekeeping operations, and urges the Secretary-General to fill the vacant posts as a matter of priority;

72. *Deeply regrets* that the post of Under-Secretary-General for Field Support has not been filled, and requests the Secretary-General to expedite recruitment for this post, taking fully into account paragraph 2 of section IX of its resolution 61/244;

Part IV. International cooperation for development

Section 9. Economic and social affairs

73. *Recalls* its resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005, recognizes the need for strengthening of the development pillar of the Secretariat and the importance of strategic planning, and requests the Secretary-General to provide a comprehensive proposal at the first part of its resumed sixty-second session for its consideration with a view to improving the effective and efficient delivery of the mandates of the development-related activities of the United Nations Secretariat, including the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the regional commissions and the Development Account;

74. *Requests* the Secretary-General to fill one P-3 post for the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues expeditiously;

Section 10. Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

75. *Urges* the Secretary-General to develop a concrete strategic action plan to achieve greater mobilization of resources to ensure that programme delivery can continue effectively;

76. *Notes with concern* the designation of the High Representative for the Least Developed Counties, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States as the focal point for the activities of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Liaison Office at United Nations Headquarters without the approval of the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to restore the mandate of the New York Office of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

77. *Emphasizes* the crucial importance of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, established as the follow-up mechanism to ensure the timely and effective implementation of the Programme of

Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,[9] the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries[10] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;[11]

78. *Notes with concern* a decrease of 61 per cent[12] in estimated extrabudgetary resources for the biennium 2008-2009 as compared to the biennium 2006-2007 and its detrimental impact on the overall programme delivery of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, and requests the Secretary-General to mobilize adequate resources from all sources to support the mandates related to this programme during the biennium 2008-2009;

Section 11. United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

79. *Recalls* that the development of Africa is an established priority of the United Nations, and reaffirms the commitment to address the special needs of Africa;

80. *Also recalls* General Assembly resolution 57/300 of 20 December 2002 and other resolutions calling for the strengthening of mechanisms to support the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

81. *Further recalls* paragraph IV.18 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[6]

82. *Notes with concern* that extrabudgetary resources for the biennium 2008-2009 represent a significant drop when compared to the biennium 2006-2007, and requests the Secretary-General to make greater efforts to mobilize extrabudgetary resources for this programme and to ensure that the special needs for Africa are fully addressed;

83. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to urgently fill the position of the Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser for Africa as a matter of priority;

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[9] A/CONF.191/13, chap II.

[10] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.

[11] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[12] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (A/62/7 and Corr.1), para. IV.14.

Section 12. Trade and development

84. *Takes note with serious concern* of the decision of the Secretary-General to temporarily lend the post of Assistant Secretary-General from this programme to the United Nations Office at Geneva and its adverse implications for programme delivery, and requests the Secretary-General to restore the post to this programme and to undertake urgent measures to fill the post as a matter of priority;

Section 15. Human settlements

85. *Recalls* paragraph 114 of its resolution 54/249 of 23 December 1999, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to make every effort to ensure stability and predictability in funding the activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, including through the provision of sufficient human and financial resources within the regular budget of the United Nations;

Part V. Regional cooperation for development

86. *Emphasizes* the important contribution that the regional commissions are making towards the implementation of the development agenda and other mandates given to them arising from the outcome of the Millennium Summit[13] and other major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

87. *Reiterates* its requests to the Secretary-General to ensure a more balanced proportion of staff costs devoted to programme support in comparison with those devoted to the programme of work in all the regional commissions, in particular in the Economic Commission for Africa;

Section 17. Economic and social development in Africa

88. *Welcomes* the Secretary-General's plan of action to enhance the role of the subregional offices of the Economic Commission for Africa;

89. *Recognizes* that the repositioning of the Economic Commission for Africa is a crucial element of reform shaping the work of the Commission for the biennium 2008-2009 and beyond, and notes that the repositioning will enhance the role of the Commission in strengthening coordination and collaboration among United Nations agencies and other agencies;

90. *Emphasizes* the key role of the Economic Commission for Africa in strengthening coordination and collaboration among United Nations agencies and other entities within the region;

Section 17B. Regional Commissions New York Office

91. *Takes note* of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraph V.25 of its report;[6]

92. *Decides* to establish one P-3 post for the Regional Commissions New York Office as from 2009 and to abolish one General Service (Principal level) post;

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[13] See resolution 55/2.

Section 20. Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

93. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for more productive utilization of the allocated resources and the policy of recruiting national officers;

94. *Notes with concern* the difficulties experienced by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in finalizing agreements for extrabudgetary funding of its projects with certain international financial institutions;

Section 22. Regular programme of technical cooperation

95. *Requests* the Secretary-General to streamline, in accordance with budgetary guidelines, the use of long-term advisers in the execution of projects under the regular technical cooperation programme and to report thereon in the next budget submission;

96. *Welcomes* the introduction of results-based budgeting at the subprogramme level;

Part VI. Human rights and humanitarian affairs

Section 23. Human rights

97. *Regrets* the imbalance in the geographic distribution in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Office of the Coordinator for Humanitarian Affairs;

98. *Recalls* its resolution 61/244 of 22 December 2006, and requests the Secretary-General to implement urgent measures to improve the balance in the geographical distribution in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, including through recruitment for newly established posts, and to report on the results achieved at its sixty-third session under the relevant agenda item;

99. *Notes* the importance of having information on monitoring the utilization of extrabudgetary resources for the activities of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

100. *Recognizes* that the overall amount appropriated for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for the biennium 2006-2007 represents a 36.6 per cent increase over the revised appropriation for the biennium 2004-2005, and decides to use the revised estimates for 2004-2005 as the baseline for the agreed doubling of resources for the Office;

101. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services to undertake a comprehensive review of human resources management in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the efficiency of the implementation of its mandate and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

102. *Notes with great concern* the late submission of revised estimates[14] relating to Human Rights Council decision 3/104 of 8 December 2006[15] and the inclusion of additional funds to be charged against the contingency fund rather than their having been included in the original budget proposals for 2008-2009;

103. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of its resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006;

104. *Requests*, in this regard, the Council to exercise greater financial discipline with due regard for regulation 5.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[16] through endeavours such as seeking the most cost-effective measures to implement its mandates;

105. *Encourages* Member States participating in the Junior Professional Officer programme to increase sponsorship of Junior Professional Officers from developing countries;

106. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in proposing posts for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to ensure their conformity with relevant legislative mandates, including those of the Human Rights Council;

Section 25. Palestinian refugees

107. *Reaffirms* its resolution 3331B (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, stating that expenses for salaries of international staff in the service of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, which would otherwise be a charge on voluntary contributions, should be financed by the regular budget of the United Nations for the duration of the Agency's mandate;

108. *Notes with concern* the significant reduction in the total resources for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East over the past ten years while the overall workload and responsibilities of the programme have continued to increase;

109. *Decides* to approve the establishment of the following posts for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East: one D-2 for regional fund-raising, one P-5 for a Senior Protection and Policy Adviser, one P-4 for assessment, monitoring and evaluation, and one P-4 as a Gender Adviser, and requests the Secretary-General to present proposals for new posts in the context of his next budget submission;

Part VII. Public information

Section 27. Public information

110. *Stresses* the importance of the status and image of the United Nations to enable effective implementation of its mandates, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the highest priority is given, in the context of the United Nations communication strategy, to the promotion and advocacy of the image of the United Nations in the face of frequent damaging reporting on United Nations activities;

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[14] A/62/125.

[15] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. II.B.

[16] ST/SGB/2000/8.

111. *Also stresses* the importance of the Department of Public Information to address effectively and in a timely manner any allegations of misconduct against peacekeepers, as well as other allegations against the United Nations Secretariat, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

112. *Further stresses* the publication of United Nations information materials and the translation of important documents in languages other than United Nations official languages, with a view to reaching the widest possible spectrum of audiences and extending the United Nations message to all the corners of the world in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization;

113. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote public awareness of and to mobilize support for the work of the United Nations at the local level through all possible means of communication, including publications, the broadcasting of news and the network of United Nations information centres, bearing in mind that information in local languages has the strongest impact on local populations;

114. *Recognizes* the vital role of the United Nations information centres in promoting awareness about the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to make efforts to mobilize resources for the effective functioning of United Nations information centres in developing countries;

115. *Notes* the gap among the six official languages on the United Nations website;

116. *Reaffirms* the need to achieve full parity among the six official languages on the United Nations website;

117. *Notes with concern* that three out of four established posts are still vacant in the Arabic Language Unit of the United Nations Web Services Section, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to fill the three vacancies as a matter of priority and to inform the General Assembly through the Committee on Information at its 2008 session;

118. *Notes* the importance of the Graphic Design Unit in communicating the messages of the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to present proposals to enhance professional skills in this Unit in his next budget submission;

119. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to expand the scope of press releases in addition to the existing languages in order to widen the United Nations message, assuring their comprehensiveness and up-to-date nature;

120. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to undertake a review of the Secretariat's public information organizational framework, including a detailed explanation and analysis of its resources in all departments of the Secretariat at Headquarters, other duty stations and in field missions with a view to achieving increased coordination and efficiencies in the allocation of resources across the Secretariat;

121. *Recalls* paragraph VII.6 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[6] decides not to approve resources requested in paragraph 27.49 of the report of the Secretary-General,[17] and requests the Secretary-General to utilize the existing staff and resources of the Department of

[17] See A/62/6 (Sect. 27).

Public Information to support the special conferences while bearing in mind that the coverage of large-scale events may entail additional personnel, without prejudice to the source of funding;

Part VIII. Common support services

Section 28C. Office of Human Resources Management

122. *Regrets* that a P-5 post as requested for enhancing the outreach activities of the Office of Human Resources Management may not be sufficient to achieve the balance in recruitment as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/244;

Section 28D. Office of Central Support Services

123. *Decides* to reduce provisions under section 28D by 18 million United States dollars, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the impact of the reduction in the context of the performance report;

Section 28G. Administration, Nairobi

124. *Recalls* paragraph 101 of its resolution 52/220 of 22 December 1997;

125. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General to continue to bring financial arrangements of the United Nations Office at Nairobi in line with those of similar United Nations administrative offices;

Part IX. Internal oversight

Section 29. Internal oversight

126. *Takes note* of paragraph IX.7 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[6]

127. *Decides* to redeploy a P-5-level post from subprogramme 1, Internal audit, to the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services, for the function of a Special Assistant to the Under-Secretary-General at the P-5 level;

128. *Reaffirms* the central role of monitoring, inspection and evaluation in the programme planning process, and decides to continue the current arrangements under general temporary assistance for nine positions to strengthen subprogramme 2, Inspection and evaluation, one at the D-2 level, three at the P-3 level, four at the P-2 level and one General Service (Other level) post;

Part X. Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses

Section 30. Jointly financed administrative activities

129. *Decides* to establish one P-2 and one P-3 Research Officer post for the Inspections and Evaluations Group of the Joint Inspection Unit;

130. *Also decides* to abolish two General Service (Other level) posts for a Registry Clerk and a Research Assistant;

Part XII. Safety and security

Section 33. Safety and security

131. *Decides* not to reclassify a D-2 post to the Assistant Secretary-General level for the Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General for Safety and Security;

132. *Also decides* not to establish a P-2 post for the function of Internal Affairs Officer in the Department of Safety and Security.

Annex

Staffing table for the biennium 2008-2009

Professional and above	
Deputy Secretary-General	1
Under-Secretary-General	29
Assistant Secretary-General	25
D-2	97
D-1	269
P-5	793
P-4/3	2 615
P-2/1	508
Subtotal	**4 337**
General Service	
Principal level	280
Other level	2 732
Subtotal	**3 012**
Other	
Security Service	306
Local level	1 907
Field Service	139
National Officer	52
Trades and Crafts	176
Subtotal	**2 580**
Total	**9 929**

Draft resolution II
Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

A

BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 2008-2009

The General Assembly,

Resolves that, for the biennium 2008-2009:

1. Appropriations totalling 4,171,359,700 United States dollars are hereby approved for the following purposes:

(United States dollars)

Section		*Amount*
	Part I. *Overall policymaking, direction and coordination*	
1.	Overall policymaking, direction and coordination	89 215 800
2.	General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management	629 339 800
	Subtotal	**718 555 600**
	Part II. *Political affairs*	
3.	Political affairs	495 609 200
4.	Disarmament	21 607 900
5.	Peacekeeping operations	101 412 700
6.	Peaceful uses of outer space	7 439 800
	Subtotal	**626 069 600**
	Part III. *International justice and law*	
7.	International Court of Justice	41 200 400
8.	Legal affairs	46 069 000
	Subtotal	**87 269 400**
	Part IV. *International cooperation for development*	
9.	Economic and social affairs	158 384 800
10.	Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States	5 440 400
11.	United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development	11 641 900
12.	Trade and development	123 746 100
13.	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO	28 099 800
14.	Environment	13 796 600
15.	Human settlements	20 520 800

16.	International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice	36 819 000
	Subtotal	**398 449 400**
	Part V. *Regional cooperation for development*	
17.	Economic and social development in Africa	119 798 200
18.	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	83 926 400
19.	Economic development in Europe	59 917 100
20.	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	104 445 000
21.	Economic and social development in Western Asia	58 107 500
22.	Regular programme of technical cooperation	50 951 400
	Subtotal	**477 145 600**
	Part VI. *Human rights and humanitarian affairs*	
23.	Human rights	116 938 400
24.	International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees	73 069 300
25.	Palestine refugees	40 727 500
26.	Humanitarian assistance	28 492 300
	Subtotal	**259 227 500**
	Part VII. *Public information*	
27.	Public information	184 000 500
	Subtotal	**184 000 500**
	Part VIII. *Common support services*	
28.	Management and support services	540 204 300
	Subtotal	**540 204 300**
	Part IX. *Internal oversight*	
29.	Internal oversight	35 997 700
	Subtotal	**35 997 700**
	Part X. *Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses*	
30.	Jointly financed administrative activities	11 459 300
31.	Special expenses	97 011 600
	Subtotal	**108 470 900**
	Part XI. *Capital expenditures*	
32.	Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	58 782 600
	Subtotal	**58 782 600**
	Part XII. *Safety and security*	
33.	Safety and security	197 169 300
	Subtotal	**197 169 300**

	Part XIII. *Development Account*	
34.	Development Account	18 651 300
	Subtotal	**18 651 300**
	Part XIV. *Staff assessment*	
35.	Staff assessment	461 366 000
	Subtotal	**461 366 000**
	Total	**4 171 359 700**

2. The Secretary-General shall be authorized to transfer credits between sections of the budget with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. In addition to the appropriations approved under paragraph 1 above, an amount of 75,000 dollars is appropriated for each year of the biennium 2008-2009 from the accumulated income of the Library Endowment Fund for the purchase of books, periodicals, maps and library equipment and for such other expenses of the library at the Palais des Nations in Geneva as are in accordance with the objects and provisions of the endowment.

B

INCOME ESTIMATES FOR THE BIENNIUM 2008-2009

The General Assembly,

Resolves that, for the biennium 2008-2009:

1. Estimates of income other than assessments on Member States totalling 515,460,600 United States dollars are approved as follows:

(United States dollars)

Income section	*Amount*
1. Income from staff assessment	465 780 400
2. General income	47 946 900
3. Services to the public	1 733 300
Total	**515 460 600**

2. The income from staff assessment shall be credited to the Tax Equalization Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955;

3. Direct expenses of the United Nations Postal Administration, services to visitors, the sale of statistical products, catering operations and related services, garage operations, television services and the sale of publications not provided for under the budget appropriations shall be charged against the income derived from those activities.

C

FINANCING OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2008

The General Assembly,

Resolves that, for the year 2008:

1. Budget appropriations consisting of 2,085,679,850 United States dollars, being half of the appropriation of 4,171,359,700 dollars approved for the biennium 2008-2009 by the General Assembly in paragraph 1 of resolution A above, plus 19,876,500 dollars, being the increase in revised appropriations for the biennium 2006-2007 approved by the Assembly in its resolutions 61/258 of 26 March 2007, 61/275 of 29 June 2007 and 62/235 A of 22 December 2007, shall be financed in accordance with regulations 3.1 and 3.2 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,[1] as follows:

(a) 44,927,300 dollars, consisting of 24,840,100 dollars, being the net of half of the estimated income other than staff assessment approved for the biennium

[1] ST/SGB/2003/7.

2008-2009 under resolution B above, plus 20,087,200 dollars, being the increase in income other than staff assessment for the biennium 2006-2007;

(b) 2,060,629,050 dollars, being the assessment on Member States in accordance with its resolution 61/237 of 22 December 2006;

2. There shall be set off against the assessment on Member States, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the total amount of 231,612,600 dollars, consisting of:

(a) 232,890,200 dollars, being half of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the biennium 2008-2009 in resolution B above;

(b) Less 1,277,600 dollars, being the decrease in income from staff assessment for the biennium 2006-2007 approved by the Assembly in its resolutions 61/258 of 26 March 2007, 61/275 of 29 June 2007 and 62/235 B of 22 December 2007.

Draft resolution III
Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

The General Assembly,

I
International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO

Having considered the programme budget proposals for the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO for the biennium 2008-2009[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

2. *Decides* to approve resources in the amount of 28,099,800 United States dollars (at the exchange rate of 1.2 Swiss francs to 1 dollar) proposed for the biennium 2008-2009 under section 13, International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;

II
Administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

Having considered the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board on the administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,[3] the report of the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications arising from the report of the Board[4] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[5,6]

1. *Approves* expenses, chargeable directly to the Fund, totalling 131,996,500 dollars net for the biennium 2008-2009 and a revised estimate of 104,461,100 dollars net for the biennium 2006-2007 for the administration of the Fund;

2. *Also approves* an additional amount of 748,200 dollars above the level of resources set out in section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009[7] as the United Nations share of the cost of the administrative expenses of the central secretariat of the Fund;

III
Request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

Recalling section IV of its resolution 60/248 of 23 December 2005,

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[1] A/62/6 (Sect. 13) and Add.1.
[2] A/62/7/Add.10.
[3] A/62/175.
[4] A/C.5/62/2.
[5] A/62/7/Add.3.
[6] A/62/7/Add.13.
[7] A/62/6 (Sect. 1).

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General on the request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research resulting from the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute on the work programme of the Institute for 2008-2009[8] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[9]

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General;[8]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[9]

3. *Approves* the request for a subvention to the Institute of 485,500 dollars for the biennium 2008-2009 from the regular budget of the United Nations, on the understanding that no additional provision would be required under section 4, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;

IV

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive and resumed substantive sessions of 2007

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive and resumed substantive sessions of 2007[10] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[11]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[10]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[11]

3. *Notes* that provision relating to the resource requirements for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women is considered in the report of the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/62/L.20/Rev.1;[12]

V

Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council[13] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[14]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[13]

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[8] A/C.5/62/3.
[9] A/62/7/Add.5.
[10] A/62/515.
[11] A/62/7/Add.16.
[12] A/62/616.
[13] A/62/512 and Add.1-3, Add.4 and Corr.1 and Add.5.
[14] A/62/7/Add.29.

2. *Regrets* the recurrent late submission of the reports under consideration, which hinders the proper examination of the matter by the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to present future budget proposals for the special political missions not later than the first week of November;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[14] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Notes* the insufficient level of collaboration between the Department of Political Affairs, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support with respect to special political missions, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure systemic cooperation so as to prevent duplication among the three departments;

5. *Stresses* the importance of clear reporting lines and accountability between special political missions and Headquarters;

6. *Recalls* its resolution 48/259 of 14 July 1994, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that functions and responsibilities of special envoys, special representatives and other special high-level positions are more clearly defined and streamlined, avoiding any possible duplication, and that the current financial regulations and budgetary procedures are fully complied with;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all special political missions are properly managed and all related post and non-post resources are fully and thoroughly justified;

8. *Decides* to revert to consideration of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the management of special political missions by the Department of Political Affairs[15] during its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates related to the strengthening of the Department of Political Affairs;[16]

9. *Recalls* paragraph 8 of its resolution 61/276 of 29 June 2007, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to implement relevant provisions of that resolution for special political missions, where applicable;

10. *Decides* to upgrade the position of the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide to the Under-Secretary-General level, and to establish an additional P-3 and an additional General Service (Other level) position in his office;

11. *Takes note* of paragraph 25 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[14] and decides to approve the establishment of one new P-3 position for a Political Affairs Officer in the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon;

12. *Also takes note* of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraph 16 of its report, and approves the proposal of the Secretary-General to finance the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia as from 1 January 2008

[15] A/61/357.

[16] A/62/521.

without prejudice to the consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates related to the strengthening of the Department of Political Affairs;

13. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the United Nations related to special political missions;

14. *Reaffirms* the need to ensure adequate levels of safety and security for United Nations personnel and associated humanitarian personnel;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a new, complete and detailed proposal for the construction of the United Nations integrated compound in Baghdad, under section 32, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the programme budget, for its consideration at the first part of its resumed sixty-second session;

16. *Decides* to reduce the overall provision for special political missions for 2008-2009 by 200,150,000 dollars;

17. *Approves* the budgets totalling 386,587,300 dollars of the 26 special political missions authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council presented in table 1 of the report of the Secretary-General;[17]

18. *Also approves* a charge totalling 386,587,300 dollars net against the provision for special political missions requested in section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;

VI

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 and to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 under sections 2, 23, 27, 28E and 35 and income section 1 and a proposal related to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses arising from the implementation of decisions of the Human Rights Council[18] and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[19]

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Decides* to establish five P-5 posts for Senior Revisers for conference management, Geneva;

3. *Approves* net additional resource requirements for the biennium 2008-2009 amounting to 765,100 dollars, representing:

(a) A reduction of 307,400 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management;

(b) An increase of 1,072,500 dollars under section 23, Human rights;

[17] A/62/512.
[18] A/62/125.
[19] A/62/7/Add.25.

(c) Additional resource requirements of 324,700 dollars under section 35, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment;

VII
Revised estimates relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 under sections 17, 20, 21, 27, 28C, 28D, 28E, 28F and 28G to ensure operational preparedness and business continuity in a protracted human influenza pandemic crisis

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 under sections 17, 20, 21, 27, 28C, 28D, 28E, 28F and 28G to ensure operational preparedness and business continuity in a protracted human influenza pandemic crisis[20] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[21]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[20]

2. *Stresses* the need for a comprehensive review of all business continuity measures, including human influenza pandemic and other kinds of emergency planning, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a comprehensive report on business continuity, including in the event of a pandemic, that is complementary to and compatible with the wider enterprise resource planning and information and communications technology reform, and to include information on the status of implementation of measures taken in that regard;

VIII
Development Account

Recalling its resolutions 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, 52/220 and 52/221 A of 22 December 1997, 52/235 of 26 June 1998, 53/220 A of 7 April 1999, 53/220 B of 8 June 1999, 54/15 of 29 October 1999, 56/237 of 24 December 2001 and 60/246 of 23 December 2005 and section IV of its resolution 61/252 of 22 December 2006,

Regretting the lack of sufficient allocation of resources for developing countries in order to enable them to better cope with developmental priorities, in particular the Millennium Development Goals and internationally agreed development goals,

Recognizing the importance of building appropriate intellectual capacities in the developing countries to help them achieve the Millennium Development Goals and more broadly the internationally agreed development goals, which constitute additional financial and technical obligations,

Stressing the failure of the prescribed modalities for identification of resources to finance the Development Account,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the Development Account,[22] the fifth annual progress report on the implementation of projects

[20] A/62/328.

[21] A/62/7/Add.2 and Corr.1.

[22] A/62/466.

financed from the Development Account[23] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[24]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the Development Account[22] and the fifth annual progress report on the implementation of projects financed from the Development Account,[23] and encourages him to work further towards identifying resources from possible reductions in administration and other overhead costs that may be identified for transfer to the Development Account;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[24] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Reaffirms* the role and prerogative of Member States in setting the priorities of the Organization, as reflected in legislative decisions;

4. *Stresses* that the Development Account is one of the appropriate tools to cope with the evolving needs of the global development agenda;

5. *Notes with concern* that the Secretary-General has not fulfilled the mandates contained in resolution 52/12 B and subsequent resolutions on the Development Account;

6. *Recognizes* that the current modalities for financing the Development Account, which is to be funded from savings achieved as a result of the efficiency measures that can be identified in the context of budget performance reports, have not proved successful;

7. *Recalls* paragraph 4 of section IV of its resolution 61/252;

8. *Also recalls* that the amount of 2.5 million dollars was appropriated under section 34, Development Account, of the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 as an immediate exceptional measure towards addressing the lack of transfer of resources to the Account since its inception;

9. *Notes with deep concern* that the Secretary-General has not been able to define a procedure to track and identify efficiency gains in the context of budget performance reports and that he has not been able to provide recommendations to the General Assembly on how additional resources in the region of 2.5 million dollars could be added to the Development Account;

10. *Notes with concern* the lack of options in the report of the Secretary-General[22] for tangible, predictable and sustainable funding for the Development Account;

11. *Decides* to appropriate an additional 2.5 million dollars for the Development Account;

12. *Stresses* that the appropriation referred to in paragraph 11 above is an exceptional measure towards addressing the lack of transfer of resources to the Account since its inception;

13. *Recalls* paragraph 5 of its resolution 52/235;

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[23] A/62/123.

[24] A/62/7/Add.6.

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to fully comply with its resolution 52/12 B and subsequent resolutions on the Development Account;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

IX
Construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa

Recalling section II of its resolution 61/252 of 22 December 2006,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[25] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[26]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Government of Ethiopia, as host country, in facilitating the construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[25] and endorses the related observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report;[26]

X
Construction of additional conference facilities at the Vienna International Centre

Recalling section I of its resolution 61/252 of 22 December 2006,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[27] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[28]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts by the Government of Austria, as host country, to construct conference facilities at the Vienna International Centre;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[27] and endorses the related observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report;[28]

XI
Supplementary agreement between the United Nations and the Carnegie Foundation concerning the use of the Peace Palace at The Hague

Recalling section VII of its resolution 52/222 of 22 December 1997,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the supplementary agreement between the United Nations and the Carnegie Foundation concerning the

[25] A/62/487.
[26] A/62/7/Add.11.
[27] A/62/358.
[28] A/62/7/Add.9.

use of the Peace Palace at The Hague[29] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[30]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[29]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[30]

3. *Approves* the amendments to the supplementary agreement contained in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General;

XII
Financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

Recalling section II of its resolution 61/273 of 29 June 2007,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women[31] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[32]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[31]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[32]

3. *Reiterates its appeal* to Member States, as a matter of urgency, to contribute voluntary funds in support of the Institute and to honour existing pledges in a timely manner;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that continue to contribute to and support the activities of the Institute;

5. *Expresses its deep appreciation* to the management and the Executive Board of the Institute for their efforts that have helped the Institute to secure sustainable financing;

XIII
Administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2007

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2007,[33] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[34]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[33]

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[29] A/62/496.
[30] A/62/7/Add.8.
[31] A/62/509.
[32] A/62/7/Add.12.
[33] A/62/336.
[34] A/62/353 and A/62/7/Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[34]

XIV
United Nations Postal Administration

Recalling its resolutions 57/292 of 20 December 2002 and 61/233 A of 22 December 2006 and section III of its resolution 61/252 of 22 December 2006,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the contingent liability reserve for the United Nations Postal Administration[35] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[36]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[35]

2. *Notes* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[36]

3. *Takes note* of paragraphs 9 to 11 of the report of the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General to continue taking measures, alternative to the establishment of a contingent liability reserve, to eliminate risks posed to the United Nations Postal Administration by mass mailing and to report to the General Assembly on the progress achieved at its sixty-third session;

4. *Decides* to consider the establishment of a contingent liability reserve for the United Nations Postal Administration as a solution to the issue of reducing the risk posed to the Postal Administration by the use of its services for commercial and bulk mail, on the basis of any future recommendations of the Board of Auditors and updated information provided by the Secretary-General on this issue, at its sixty-third session;

XV
Standards of accommodation for air travel

Recalling its resolution 42/214 of 21 December 1987, section IV, paragraph 14, of its resolution 53/214 of 18 December 1998 and section IV of its resolution 60/255 of 8 May 2006,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on standards of accommodation for air travel and on the review of the standards of travel and entitlements for staff members, members of organs and subsidiary organs of the United Nations and entities of the United Nations system,[37] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the harmonization of the conditions of travel throughout the United Nations system,[38] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the harmonization of the conditions of travel throughout the

[35] A/61/900.
[36] A/62/350.
[37] A/61/188 and Corr.1 and A/61/801.
[38] A/60/78.

United Nations system[39] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[40]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[37]

2. *Also takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the harmonization of the conditions of travel throughout the United Nations system[38] and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the harmonization of the conditions of travel throughout the United Nations system;[39]

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[40,41] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Takes note* of the recommendation in paragraph 7 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[40]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the Chief Executives Board, to report on the feasibility of harmonizing standards of travel for staff members, members of organs and subsidiary organs of the United Nations and organizations of the United Nations system, on the basis of a review and proposals by the Chief Executives Board, taking due consideration of the specificity of the work and mandates of the different entities of the system;

XVI
Contingency fund

Notes that a balance of 12,191,000 dollars remains in the contingency fund;[42]

XVII
Effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates resulting from the effect of changes in rates of exchange and inflation[43] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[44]

Takes note of the revised estimates arising from recosting due to the effects of changes in the rates of exchange and inflation;

XVIII
Joint Inspection Unit

Approves the gross budget for the Joint Inspection Unit for the biennium 2008-2009 in the amount of 11,633,000 dollars;

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[39] A/60/78/Add.1.
[40] A/61/661.
[41] A/62/351.
[42] See A/C.5/62/22.
[43] A/62/587.
[44] A/62/7/Add.30.

XIX
International Civil Service Commission

Approves the gross budget for the International Civil Service Commission for the biennium 2008-2009 in the amount of 17,777,000 dollars;

XX
Administration of justice

Recalling its resolution 62/228 of 22 December 2007 on the administration of justice,

1. *Decides* to approve a total amount of 17,010,200 dollars under the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009, reflecting increases comprising 11,860,400 dollars under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, 1,737,300 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, 41,300 dollars under section 17, Economic and social development in Africa, 92,700 dollars under section 18, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, 98,100 dollars under section 20, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, 37,500 dollars under section 21, Economic and social development in Western Asia, 326,700 dollars under section 28A, Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management, 269,500 dollars under section 28C, Office of Human Resources Management, 1,297,600 dollars under section 28D, Office of Central Support Services, 167,800 dollars under section 28E, Administration, Geneva, 1,119,200 dollars under section 35, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount under Income section 1, Income from staff assessment, partially offset by reductions of 23,800 dollars under section 28F, Administration, Vienna, and 14,100 dollars under section 28G, Administration, Nairobi, of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;

2. *Also decides* that the amount of 305,300 dollars will be financed from the resources approved for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008, to be reported to the General Assembly in the context of the performance report on the support account for the period;

XXI
Use of 300-series and 100-series appointments

1. *Recalls* section XIV of its resolution 60/266 of 30 June 2006 and section VII of its resolution 61/276 of 29 June 2007;

2. *Decides* to continue to suspend the application of the four-year maximum limit for appointments of limited duration until 30 June 2008;

3. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, bearing in mind paragraph 2 above, to reappoint, under the 100 series of the Staff Rules, those mission staff whose service under 300-series contracts has reached the four-year limit by 30 June 2008, provided that their functions have been reviewed and found necessary and their performance has been confirmed as fully satisfactory, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the practice of using 300-series contracts as the primary instrument for the appointment of new staff;

XXII
United Nations Office for Partnerships

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Office for Partnerships[45] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[46]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[45]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[46]

XXIII
Jointly financed gross budget of the Department of Safety and Security

Approves the gross budget of the Department of Safety and Security for the biennium 2008-2009 in the amount of 200,126,100 dollars, broken down as follows:

(a) Field Security Operations: 172,417,700 dollars;

(b) Security and Safety Services at the United Nations Office at Vienna: 27,708,400 dollars.

[45] A/62/220.
[46] A/62/363.

Draft resolution IV
Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 2008-2009

The General Assembly,

1. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and subject to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations[1] and the provisions of paragraph 3 below, to enter into commitments in the biennium 2008-2009 to meet unforeseen and extraordinary expenses arising either during or subsequent to the biennium, provided that the concurrence of the Advisory Committee shall not be necessary for:

(a) Such commitments not exceeding a total of 8 million United States dollars in any one year of the biennium 2008-2009 as the Secretary-General certifies relate to the maintenance of peace and security;

(b) Such commitments as the President of the International Court of Justice certifies relate to expenses occasioned by:

(i) The designation of ad hoc judges (Statute of the International Court of Justice, Article 31), not exceeding a total of 200,000 dollars;

(ii) The calling of witnesses and the appointment of experts (Statute, Article 50) and the appointment of assessors (Statute, Article 30), not exceeding a total of 50,000 dollars;

(iii) The maintenance in office for the completion of cases of judges who have not been re-elected (Statute, Article 13, paragraph 3), not exceeding a total of 40,000 dollars;

(iv) The payment of pensions and travel and removal expenses of retiring judges and travel and removal expenses and installation grants of members of the Court (Statute, Article 32, paragraph 7), not exceeding a total of 410,000 dollars;

(v) The work of the Court or its Chambers away from The Hague (Statute, Article 22), not exceeding a total of 25,000 dollars;

(c) Such commitments not exceeding a total of 1 million dollars in the biennium 2008-2009 as the Secretary-General certifies are required for security measures pursuant to section XI, paragraph 6, of General Assembly resolution 59/276 of 23 December 2004;

2. *Resolves* that the Secretary-General shall report to the Advisory Committee and to the General Assembly at its sixty-third and sixty-fourth sessions all commitments made under the provisions of the present resolution, together with the circumstances relating thereto, and shall submit supplementary estimates to the Assembly in respect of such commitments;

3. *Decides* that, for the biennium 2008-2009, if a decision of the Security Council results in the need for the Secretary-General to enter into commitments relating to the maintenance of peace and security in an amount exceeding 10 million

[1] ST/SGB/2003/7.

dollars in respect of the decision, that matter shall be brought to the General Assembly, or, if the Assembly is suspended or not in session, a resumed or special session of the Assembly shall be convened by the Secretary-General to consider the matter.

Draft resolution V
Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2008-2009

The General Assembly,

Resolves that:

1. The Working Capital Fund shall be established for the biennium 2008-2009 in the amount of 150 million United States dollars;

2. Member States shall make advances to the Working Capital Fund in accordance with the scale of assessments adopted by the General Assembly for contributions of Member States to the budget for the year 2008;

3. There shall be set off against this allocation of advances:

(a) Credits to Member States resulting from transfers made in 1959 and 1960 from the surplus account to the Working Capital Fund in an adjusted amount of 1,025,092 dollars;

(b) Cash advances paid by Member States to the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2006-2007 in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 60/250 of 23 December 2005 and 60/283 of 7 July 2006;

4. Should the credits and advances paid by any Member State to the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2006-2007 exceed the amount of that Member State's advance under the provisions of paragraph 2 above, the excess shall be set off against the amount of the contributions payable by the Member State in respect of the biennium 2008-2009;

5. The Secretary-General is authorized to advance from the Working Capital Fund:

(a) Such sums as may be necessary to finance budgetary appropriations pending the receipt of contributions; sums so advanced shall be reimbursed as soon as receipts from contributions are available for that purpose;

(b) Such sums as may be necessary to finance commitments that may be duly authorized under the provisions of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, in particular resolution 62/239 of 22 December 2007 relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates for reimbursing the Working Capital Fund;

(c) Such sums as may be necessary to continue the revolving fund to finance miscellaneous self-liquidating purchases and activities which, together with net sums outstanding for the same purpose, do not exceed 200,000 dollars; advances in excess of 200,000 dollars may be made with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(d) With the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee, such sums as may be required to finance payments of advance insurance premiums where the period of insurance extends beyond the end of the biennium in which payment is made; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates of each biennium, during the life of the related policies, to cover the charges applicable to each biennium;

(e) Such sums as may be necessary to enable the Tax Equalization Fund to meet current commitments pending the accumulation of credits; such advances shall be repaid as soon as credits are available in the Tax Equalization Fund;

6. Should the provision in paragraph 1 above prove inadequate to meet the purposes normally related to the Working Capital Fund, the Secretary-General is authorized to utilize, in the biennium 2008-2009, cash from special funds and accounts in his custody, under the conditions approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 1341 (XIII) of 13 December 1958, or the proceeds of loans authorized by the Assembly.